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Presbyterian Church in the
C.S.A. General Assembly.
Minutes of the General
Assembly of the

MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES:

WITH

AN APPENDIX.

Vol. I.

A. D. 1865.

AUGUSTA, GA.:

PRINTED AT THE CONSTITUTIONALIST JOB OFFICE.

1865.

INSTITUTIONS AND OFFICERS

OF THE

Presbyterian Church in the United States.

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CLERKS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, D. D., *Stated Clerk*, Augusta, Ga.
Rev. Wm. Brown, D. D., *Permanent Clerk*, Richmond, Va.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

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Rev. Prof. James Woodrow, *Treasurer*, Columbia, S. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

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Wm. F. Taylor, Esq., *Treasurer*, Richmond, Va.

TREASURER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Jesse A. Ansley, Esq, Augusta, Ga.

MINUTES.

MACON, GA., December 14, 1865.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the (late) Confederate States of America, (having been prevented by the condition of the country from convening in May last, according to appointment,) met, in pursuance of the call of its Moderator, in the Presbyterian Church at Macon, Ga., on Thursday, the 14th day of December, 1865, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. John S. Wilson, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, on the text, Joshua 13, 1: "There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

After the sermon, he proceeded to constitute the sessions with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Committee on Commissions, reported that the following Commissioners had appeared and been regularly enrolled, viz:

I. SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.
East Alabama,	R. Nall, D. D.	N. S. Graham,
	James K. Hazen,	
South Alabama,		B. H. Craig, (2)
Tuscaloosa,	C. A. Stillman, D. D.,	

II. SYNOD OF ARKANSAS.

Arkansas,	Sam'l W. Davies, (4)	Thos. D. Chunn, (4)
Creek Nation,		
Indian,		
Ouachita,		

III. SYNOD OF GEORGIA.

Cherokee,	E. P. Palmer,	W. L. Whitman,
Flint River,	J. C. Patterson, D. D,	Henry H. Jones,
Florida,	A. W. Clisby,	
Georgia,		
Hopewell,	David Wills,	W. L. Mitchell,

IV. SYNOD OF MEMPHIS.

Chickasaw,	O. F. Rogers,
Memphis,	Philip H. Thompson,
North Mississippi,	A. H. Caldwell, (2)
Western District,	J. H. Gillespie,
Tuscumbia,	W. H. Mitchell, D. D.,

V. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

Central Mississippi,	E. T. Baird, D. D.,	
East Mississippi,	Robert Bell,	
Louisiana,		
Mississippi,	A. McCallum,	A. Baker,
New Orleans,	P. Calhoun,	Henry T. Bartlett,
Red River,		
Tombeckbee,	R. S. Gladney, (4)	R. A. Minnis, (4)

VI. SYNOD OF NASHVILLE.

Holston,	Geo. A. Caldwell,	
Knoxville,	James Park,	
North Alabama,	F. A. Ross, D. D.,	
Nashville,		

VII. SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Concord,	J. L. Kirkpatrick, D.D.,	Daniel H. Hill, (4)
	B. L. Beall,	
Fayetteville,	James McQueen,	A. J. McQueen,
	J. M. Sherwood,	
Orange,	H. G. Hill,	Charles Phillips,
		Jesse H. Lindsay,

VIII. SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Bethel,		
Charleston,	Geo. Howe, D. D.,	
	Thos. Smythe, D. D, (3)	
Harmony,	J. L. Wilson, D. D,	W. L. T. Prince, (3)
	Donald McQueen,	
South Carolina,	S. S. Gaillard,	A. Walker,
	J. R. Riley,	

IX. SYNOD OF TEXAS.

Brazos,	
Central Texas,	Sam'l A. King, (3)
Eastern Texas,	
Western Texas,	

X. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

East Hanover,	Wm. Brown, D D.,	James Miller,
	John Miller, (3)	R. F. Lester, (3)
Greenbrier,	J. C. Brown,	
Lexington,	R. C. Walker,	J. T. L. Preston, (3)
	F. H. Bowman,	
Montgomery,	L. H. Blanton,	A. G. Matthews,
	T. W. Hooper,	
Roanoke,	J. D. Mitchell, D. D.,	
West Hanover,	Richard McIlwaine,	
Winchester,	Robert T. Berry,	

The Assembly then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of the Rev. Geo. Howe, D. D., a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Charleston, as Moderator, and of the Rev. H. G. Hill, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Orange, as Temporary Clerk.

E. T. Baird, D. D., Jacob D. Mitchell, D. D., J. L. Kirkpatrick, D. D., and Prof. Charles Phillips, were appointed a committee on elections, to whom were referred the cases of persons present without commission or with defective commissions.

The Rev. Dr. Jno. N. Waddell, through the retiring Moderator, offered his resignation as Stated Clerk; which, on motion of Dr. Brown, was accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly accorded to him for his faithful services as an officer of this body.

On motion of Dr. Nall, it was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning to proceed to the election of Dr. Waddell's successor.

The following resolutions were presented by the Rev. Dr. Brown, and unanimously adopted; and the Moderator requested to appoint the committee contemplated therein, at his convenience:

Resolved, 1. That it is proper that a Pastoral Letter shall be addressed by this General Assembly to the several churches under their care, that they may be the more fully re-assured concerning various points of great importance connected with our position, and be counselled in faithful love, concerning the solemn obligations resting upon them.

2. That, for this purpose, a committee, consisting of one member from each Synod shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare the Letter, and make report as soon as practicable.

On motion of Dr. J. L. Wilson, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock to hear the reports of the several executive committees.

On motion of the Rev. D. Wills, the Assembly resolved to meet every day at 9 o'clock A. M., to adjourn at 2 P. M.; and to spend the first half hour of each session in devotional exercises.

The following communication was then read, and accepted as the report of the committee on the revision of the form of government, &c.:

The undersigned, chairman of the committee on the revision of the Form of Government, Book of Discipline, Directory for Worship and General Rules for Judicatories, would respectfully represent to the General Assembly that the state of the country has rendered it impossible for the committee to come together since the date of the Assembly's last meeting, nineteen months ago, at Charlotte, N. C.

The committee then reported that they had carefully revised the general rules of order with Jefferson's manual and some other authorities in their hands, adding a few rules to the previous collection; and that they had also classified those rules under distinct heads, so that any rule desired might be found at a glance. They had also made some few alterations in the Book of Discipline as it came to us from the hands of the former chairman, our beloved and honored Brother Thornwell: the chief of these being

1st. The introduction of a chapter on the Discipline of the Church as it is to be administered in regard to her baptized, non-communicating members; and

2d. The more full and complete statement of the Doctrine of Censure in its various forms of Admonition, Suspension, Excommunication and Deposition.

The committee still further reported that they had made a beginning in the revision of the Form of Government, and had been much impressed with the desirableness of a more scientific statement of the Scripture doctrine of Church Government than is found in our present form. The book is not fully abreast of the doctrine as actually developed amongst us. For example, it contains no full statement of the radical principles of the system. Nor is there any adequate presentation of our doctrine of the Courts, or of the duties of the different office-bearers. Again, the Evangelist appears nowhere except in a clause appended to the chapter on ordination and the general references of the chapter on Missions. Finally, the method prescribed for ordaining Elders and Deacons without imposition of hands, is clearly unscriptural, and calls loudly for amendment in that particular.

This recapitulation is made to let the Assembly understand precisely the present condition of the work.

The Assembly at Charlotte instructed us to complete our work and furnish —— copies for distribution amongst Ministers and Elders as the best way of reporting our work so that it may be examined with care. The undersigned would state that it was found impossible to obey these last injunctions for the want of funds. With a view to carry through without expense the instructions of the Assembly in their spirit, however, he proposes, as soon as the mails are generally re-established throughout our country, to procure the publication of the Rules of Order and of the Book of Discipline in successive portions in our several church papers.

With reference to the Form of Government, it is to be feared that we shall hardly be able to get the committee together before next summer. But an unavoidable delay in the completion of this part of our work will be of the less consequence, if by publishing the Rules and Book of Discipline this winter we can succeed in so introducing them to the notice of the Church as that the Assembly next spring can begin to act upon those papers.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. B. ADGER,
Chairman of Committee.

The following letter was received through the Moderator; and on motion of the Rev. Dr. Wilson, the committee named therein was discharged, and the papers referred to were ordered to be returned to their respective authors:

UNION THEO. SEMINARY, VA., Dec. 4th, 1865.

REV. AND DEAR BROTHER: I beg leave to return to the General Assembly, through you, the papers of the committee, revised by that body at Charlotte, N. C., in May, 1864, touching the relations of the Church to our slave population. A previous committee, of which Dr. Lyon, of Mississippi, was Chairman, had prepared a report, and this was submitted, with further instructions, to a committee consisting of Messrs. Dabney, McInnis, Kirkpatrick, Mitchell and Bartlett, to report in May, 1865.

The same public calamities which prevented the meeting of the Assembly, has prevented action by this committee. I have not assembled them since, because the almost impossibility of travelling made it unreasonable, and the

violent revolution which has since occurred, makes the relations of the Africans to us so different from the former. As the subject is now totally new, I have judged it best to remit it into the hands of the Assembly, in order that they may be unobstructed in the power of forming a new Committee and of issuing new instructions, should they see proper.

Praying that your counsels may be guided by the spirit of God, I would humbly subscribe myself,

Your brother in the Gospel,

R. L. DABNEY.

To the Moderator of the General Assembly, Macon, Ga.

The committee on Elections reported as follows, and their report was adopted :

The committee on elections report that they have sufficient evidence that the Presbytery of Maury has been merged in the Presbytery of North Alabama, according to the terms of union with the United Synod ; and that the Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D. is present with a commission from the said Presbytery. The Committee recommend that Dr. Ross be accordingly enrolled.

The committee further report that the Rev. James Park, of the Presbytery of Knoxville, is here without a commission ; but, for satisfactory reasons arising out of the peculiar circumstances of the case, they recommend that he be admitted to a seat.

On motion the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Ross.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and spent the first half hour in devotional exercises, according to appointment.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. A. H. Caldwell, from the Presbytery of North Mississippi, and Mr. B. H. Craig, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of South Alabama, (having mislaid or lost their commissions, and it appearing that they had been regularly chosen by their respective Presbyteries,) were recommended to seats in this body by the committee on elections ; when, on motion, they were enrolled as additional commissioners.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the following standing committees :

On Bills and Overtures.—Ministers, E. T. Baird, D. D., J. D. Mitchell, D. D., E. P. Palmer, Richard McIlwaine, Jas. K. Hazen. Ruling Elders, Charles Phillips. H. T. Bartlett.

Judicial Committee.—Ministers, R. Nall, D. D., R. C. Walker, James McQueen. Ruling Elders, A. Walker, Jas. Miller.

On Theological Seminaries.—Ministers, C. A. Stillman, D. D., L. H. Blanton, J. R. Riley, Philip H. Thompson, Donald McQueen. Ruling Elders, W. L. Mitchell, A. G. Matthews.

On Domestic Missions.—Ministers, J. L. Kirkpatrick, D. D,, F. A.

Ross, D. D., A. W. Clisby, J. H. Gillespie, T. W. Hooper. Ruling Elders, Jesse H. Lindsay, N. S. Graham.

On Foreign Missions.—Ministers, Robert T. Berry, F. H. Bowman, George A. Caldwell. Ruling Elders, A. J. McQueen, H. H. Jones.

On Publication.—Ministers, J. L. Wilson, D. D., Wm. Brown, D. D., O. F. Rogers. Ruling Elders, W. L. Whitman, A. Baker.

On Education.—Ministers, J. M. Sherwood, B. L. Beall, S. S. Gaillard. Ruling Elders, Charles Phillips, James Miller.

On the Narrative.—Ministers, Wm. H. Mitchell, D. D., Robert Bell. Ruling Elder, H. T. Bartlett.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Ministers, J. D. Mitchell, D. D., A. McCallum, P. Calhoun. Ruling Elders, A. Baker, A. Walker.

On Leave of Absence.—Ministers, Donald McQueen, James K. Hazen. Ruling Elder, H. H. Jones.

On Systematic Benevolence.—Ministers, J. C. Patterson, D. D., J. C. Brown, James Park.

On Devotional Exercises.—Ministers, David Wills, J. R. Riley, Ruling Elder, Jesse H. Lindsay.

On Records of Synod of Arkansas.—Ministers, James McQueen, L. H. Blanton. Ruling Elder, N. S. Graham.

On Records of Synod of Georgia.—Ministers, Richard McIlwaine, Philip H. Thompson. Ruling Elder, A. J. McQueen.

On Records of Synod of Memphis.—Ministers, R. C. Walker, Robert H. Berry. Ruling Elder, H. H. Jones.

On Records of Synod of Mississippi.—Ministers, S. S. Gaillard, T. W. Hooper. Ruling Elder, W. L. Whitman.

On Records of Synod of Nashville.—Ministers, Donald McQueen, F. H. Bowman. Ruling Elder, Chas. Phillips.

On Records of Synod of North Carolina.—Ministers, A. W. Clisby, George A. Caldwell. Ruling Elder, James Miller.

On Records of Synod of South Carolina.—Ministers, David Wills, O. F. Rogers. Ruling Elder, A. G. Mathews.

On Records of Synod of Texas.—Ministers, Robert Bell, B. L. Beall. Ruling Elder, Jesse H. Lindsay.

On Records of Synod of Virginia.—Ministers, Philip H. Thompson, J. M. Sherwood. Ruling Elder, N. S. Graham.

The Moderator also announced the following committee to prepare a Pastoral Letter to the Churches, in accordance with the resolutions of yesterday: Rev. William Brown, D. D., C. A. Stillman, D. D., J. H. Gillespie, F. A. Ross, D. D., J. L. Kirkpatrick, D. D., J. L. Wilson, D. D., W. L. Mitchell, and Henry T. Bartlett.

The first order of the day, viz: the election of a Stated Clerk to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Rev. Dr Waddel, having been taken up, the Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, D. D., was unanimously elected to this office. His acceptance of the same having vacated the office of Permanent Clerk, the Rev. Wm. Brown, D. D., was unanimously elected to fill said vacancy.

The following letter was received and read to the Assembly; when, on motion of Dr. Wilson, it was ordered that the Rev. R. Morrison named therein, be heard on the floor of this body immediately subsequent to the presentation of the reports of the executive committees:

"OFFICE BOARD of AID FOR SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN PASTORS,
LOUISVILLE, KY., Dec. 12, 1865.

To the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in session at Macon, Ga.:

REV. AND DEAR SIR—Our Brother, the Rev. R. Morrison, of the Presbytery of Louisville, bears this letter, and the letter of our Board of Aid to your General Assembly. He is authorized to explain to you the plans and purposes and hopes of our organization, more fully than they can be treated in a written communication. Be pleased to receive our brother for the sake of his own high worth and for the sake of the mission he bears.

Very truly and respectfully,
Your most ob't servant,
JAMES H. HUBER,
Sec'y and Treas."

Reports from the Faculty of Union Theological Seminary, from the Faculty of the Seminary at Columbia, from the chairman of the Board of trustees of the latter Seminary, and from its treasurer, were read to the Assembly; which, together with the financial statements exhibiting the condition of the funds of Columbia Seminary, were referred to the Standing Committee on Theological Seminaries.

Various overtures on the Moderator's table were referred to the standing committee on Bills and Overtures.

A paper from members of the Synod of Nashville, after being read to the Assembly, was, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Mitchell, referred to the committee on Bills and Overtures.

The following report from the chairman of the committee on the Revision of the Hymn Book, was received; and, on motion of Prof. Phillips, was referred to the standing committee on Publication:

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 6, 1865.

The undersigned, chairman of the committee on the revision of the Hymn Book, begs leave respectfully to submit the following statement to the General Assembly:

That no meeting of the committee has been held since the sessions of the Assembly at Charlotte, in 1864. The extremely agitated state of the country after that period, and the rapid rushing of events in the early part of the present year, rendered it impracticable to convene the committee, widely scattered as it was over the country: and the failure of the Assembly to meet last Spring, cut off the last hope of bringing it together. Since that time the disorganization of the country has been so entire as to restrain the intercourse which might have been held by correspondence. The work of revision stands precisely as in the last Report to the Assembly, in May, 1864.

It must also be mentioned that the original revised copy of the Hymn

Book, prepared by the committee, was destroyed, together with all the private papers, books and household effects of the under-signed, in the general conflagration of Columbia in Feb'y last. This, however, is a loss easily repaired; as it will cost little labor to re-produce the work from the consecutive reports of committee, as published in the Appendix to the Assembly's Minutes.

Having had no conference with the other members of the Committee, the following suggestion is made with diffidence as resting upon the single judgment of the writer. As the Assembly desires to produce a Hymn Book which shall not soon be displaced in the worship of our churches, it may be well, at this stage of the revision, to commit the work to an entirely new set of men, who shall bring their taste and judgment, reviewing the work of your committee and completing it—thus securing a double guarantee that the book when published will meet the wishes and wants of the whole Church. This suggestion, made without the knowledge of his colleagues, springs from no desire to throw the labor or the responsibility of this important work upon others: but from a simple wish to add every possible assurance that the work, when accomplished, will be worthy of acceptance by the Church—and this assurance will at least be doubled if the work passes through the hands of two committees; the second of which enjoying the fruits of criticism by the first. Should this suggestion commend itself to the judgment of the Assembly, I would strongly urge that the committee be a LOCAL one, or at least not so widely scattered as the present committee. The work to be performed is simply executive—and one or two weeks, solidly devoted to the business by a committee that can easily be convened, will finish it in season to present it complete for adoption by the Assembly in the Spring. Hymn Books are now wanted throughout all our churches, which yet are restrained from the purchase by the expectation of the revised book which shall supersede those now in use. It would have been impossible hitherto to have published the Hymn Book, even if it had been ready for the press—but, as all restriction is now removed, it is important to meet promptly the wants and wishes of the Church in this particular.

Very respectfully,

B. M. PALMER,
Chairman.

Narratives from the Presbyteries of Fayetteville and South Alabama, and a report on systematic benevolence from the Presbytery of Fayetteville, were referred to the committees appropriate to these subjects.

The order of the day for 11 o'clock was announced, when the Annual Reports of the Executive Committees of Foreign and Domestic Missions were read by the secretary, the Rev. Dr. J Leighton Wilson: and respectively referred to the Standing Committee on those two subjects.*

The Rev. Dr. William Brown, from the Executive Committees of Publication and Education, presented the Reports of these Agencies, which were referred to the Standing Committees on Publication and Education.*

The Rev. Mr. Morrison, from the Board of Aid for Southern Presbyterian Pastors, located at Louisville, Ky., was now intro-

*See Appendix for these reports.

duced to the Assembly, and presented the following salutatory letter in explanation of the agency he represents :

"KENTUCKY BOARD OF AID FOR SOUTHERN PASTORS : To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Macon, Ga. :

Brethren, beloved in the Lord, "grace be to you, and peace from God our Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort ; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in trouble by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted."

These presents are to tell you that, out of the love we bear for you in our Lord Jesus Christ, and from the belief that if we were in any trouble, you would try to comfort us ; and above all, from the knowledge that our Master's cause demands that His pastors within your bounds should be speedily relieved from pressing want, freed from worldly care and avocations, to the end that they may devote their whole labor to his business, your brethren in this city and commonwealth make this overture.

In forming a plan which the accompanying documents name, to thus build up the Redeemer's kingdom, all parties in our Church have met upon common ground, and such has been their zeal and quick response to this call, that, although but a very few days have elapsed since it was made, yet already the funds of this Board amount to six thousand dollars, and the work, it can be said, has but just begun. Let the hearts of the brethren of your Assembly be joined together with one heart in this work. We ask of you that you will, in order to effect a prompt and efficient disbursement of the funds entrusted to our hands, appoint one or more brethren, as may seem good to you, from each of your Presbyteries, whose duty shall be to correspond with this Board, and indicate to us to whom our offering of love shall be sent. This co-operation on your part will be of great importance to us, as it will insure a speedy and careful discharge of our duty in this matter as stewards of the Lord. We trust, therefore, that you will not deny our request, and that we may quickly hear from you, acquainting us with the names of the brethren you will appoint agreeably thereto.

Beloved brethren, hope in the Lord, and remember His words unto His servants, upon which he has caused us to hope, wherein He saith : "The Lord shall comfort Zion. He will comfort all her waste places : And He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord ; joy and gladness shall be found therein. Thanksgiving ! and the voice of melody."

"Brethren, pray for us. Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." "Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith from God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen."

Written from Louisville, Kentucky, December 12th, 1865, in behalf of the Board, by your servant and brother, for Christ's sake,

JAMES H. HUBER,
Secretary and Treasurer.

After the reading of this letter, the Rev. Mr. Morrison proceeded to address the Assembly in further explanation of the subject of

its contents; when, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Baird, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, 1st, That this Assembly express their great satisfaction at the presence of Rev. Robert Morrison, as the representative of the "Kentucky Board of Aid for Southern Pastors," recently organized at Louisville, and return him their sincere thanks for his able and interesting address.

Resolved, 2d, That the letter from the Kentucky Aid Association and the subject matter of Mr. Morrison's address, be referred to the Standing Committee on Domestic Missions, with instructions to prepare a suitable minute for our adoption.

The Rev. Richard McIlwaine offered the following resolution which, on motion of the Rev. Robert T. Berry, was laid on the table:

"Resolved, That when the time for adjournment to-day shall arrive, the Assembly will take a recess till 7 o'clock P. M., to meet in the Lecture Room of this Church; and that this shall be the order for each day during our sessions."

The Assembly heard a statement from the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, with reference to the proceedings of the Trustees of the General Assembly, from which body no report has been received; when, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Wilson, a committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, Col. Mitchell and N. S. Graham, was appointed to report to this Assembly what additional steps, if any, are necessary in order to secure a competent charter for this body.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Wilson, it was made the duty of the Committee on Bills and Overtures to report at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning on the subject of the name which this Assembly shall hereafter bear.

Dr. Ross presented a paper on the subject of "social recreations," which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, with directions to report to the Assembly to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Ross, the Rev. Geo. A. Caldwell was added to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

On motion the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by Prof. Charles Phillips.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and spent the first half hour in devotional exercises. The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The following members were reported and took their seats, viz: R. E. Lester, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of East Hanover; Rev. Thomas Smythe, D. D., from the Presbytery of Charleston; W. L. T. Prince, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Harmony; J. T. L. Preston, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Lexington.

On motion of Dr. J. L. Wilson, it was resolved that when the Committee of Bills and Overtures shall have presented a name for our Church, it shall be in order for other members to do the same;

the various names shall then be disposed of *seriatim ;* and speeches on the subject shall be limited to five minutes each.

An Overture from the Presbytery of East Hanover concerning depositories for religious books, was read and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The order of the day was taken up, and the Committee on Bills and Overtures made a report, (Overtures No. 2 and 3,) recommending that the name of the Church shall be THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES; after which various other names were proposed by members of the Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Bowman, the resolution offered by Dr. Wilson was reconsidered, and then on motion of Dr. Nall was amended by striking out the words, "the various names shall then be disposed of *seriatim*" and inserting the following : "If on the first vote no name shall have received a majority of the votes, then all the names shall be withdrawn except the four highest, and then continue to drop the name having the smallest vote, until one shall have a majority ; and that the vote be taken by calling the roll."

After considerable discussion on the merits of the names proposed, the vote was taken with the following result : For the name proposed by the committee, 42 ; Presbyterian Church in the South, 7 ; American Presbyterian Church, 2 ; Protestant Presbyterian Church in the United States, 2.

The vote was then made unanimous, and the report of the committee was adopted.

The order of the day for 11 o'clock was postponed till 10 o'clock Monday morning.

The resolution proposing a change in the time of meeting during the present sessions, which had been laid on the table, was taken up, when it was resolved to meet in the Lecture Room to-night, and thereafter, at 7 o'clock.

The Standing Committee on Finance presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows :

The Standing Committee on Finance (corsisting of the Stated and Permanent Clerks and the Treasurer,) beg leave to report that, in order to meet the expenses of this Assembly, they recommend the following schedule of assessments : The following Presbyteries shall be assessed in the sum of twenty-five dollars ($25 00) each, viz : South Alabama, Hopewell, Memphis, Mississippi, New Orleans. Concord, Fayetteville, Orange, Harmony, South Carolina, East Hanover, Lexington, Roanoke, and West Hanover. The following in the sum of twenty dollars ($20.00) each, viz : East Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Flint River, Tombeckbee, Nashville, Bethel, Charleston, Greenbrier, Montgomery and Winchester. The following in the sum of ten dollars ($10.00) each, viz : Arkansas, Ouachita, Cherokee, Florida, Chickasaw, North Mississippi. Tuscumbia, Western District, Central Mississippi, Louisiana, Holston and North Alabama. The following in the sum of five dollars ($5.00) each, viz : Creek Nation, Indian, Georgia, East Mississippi, Red River, Knoxville, Brazos, Central Texas, East Texas and West Texas.

The Committee likewise recommend that the published Minutes of this Assembly shall be furnished by the Stated Clerk to all who shall desire the same, for the sum of fifty cents a copy.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, which was adopted, and is as follows :

Overture No. 1, from a Convention of Ministers and Elders, belonging to the Synod of Nashville, informing the Assembly that that Synod had not been able to meet since the Fall of 1861 ; declaring their cordial adherence to this body, and their approval of our position and principles ; and requesting the Assembly to appoint a meeting of Synod at an early day.

The committee recommend that this request be granted ; and that the Synod of Nashville be directed to meet in the Presbyterian Church of Huntsville, Alabama, on the Thursday before the third Sabbath of January, 1866, at half-past six o'clock P. M., and that the sessions be opened with a sermon by the Rev. Robert Hardin, D. D.. or in cash of his absence, then by the oldest minister present, who shall preside until a Moderator be chosen.

The committee reported also Overture No. 4, which after consideration was recommitted ; Messrs. Preston, John Miller and Smythe being meanwhile added to the committee ; also Overtures Nos. 5 and 6, which were placed on the docket.

A report was received from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, which was approved.

On motion the Assembly adjourned to meet in the Lecture Room at 6 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

Saturday Evening, 7 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Rev. Samuel A. King, from the Presbytery of Central Texas, was, upon report of the Committee on Elections, enrolled as a member.

Overture No. 7 was reported by the committee and adopted, and is as follows :

Overture No. 7, from the Presbytery of Central Mississippi, representing that under the terms of the union agreed upon with the United Synod, two ministers and at least two churches properly in the bounds of the Synod of Memphis, were transferred to that Presbytery, and requesting the Assembly to rectify this matter.

The committee recommend that the Rev. E. M. Richardson and Rev. George P. Richardson, together with the churches of Granada and Panola, and any other churches formerly connected with the Presbytery of Lexington South, which lie north of the northern boundary of the Synod of Mississippi, be and hereby are transferred from the Presbytery of Central Mississippi to the Presbytery of North Mississippi of the Synod of Memphis.

Also Overture No. 8, which was adopted, and is as follows :

Overture No. 8.—From the Synod of South Carolina, declaring in substance its continued approval of the course adopted by the Southern Presbyteries, in organizing this General Assembly ; declaring its purpose to adhere with renewed energy and affection to our own cherished denomination ; extending a welcome to our communion and fellowship, to all who cordially adopt our standards and sympathize with us in our principles as to the province of the church ; and warning our churches against all schismatical intruders.

The committee recommend that the Assembly express its agreement with the Synod in these views.

Also No. 4, which had been recommitted. The report, being adopted, is as follows :

Overture No. 4.—An inquiry from an Elder of one of our churches as to what is the duty and christian course of a Church Session, when a minister or agent of the Old School General Assembly (North) presents himself amongst us, with a request to labor in our churches, or occupy one of our vacant houses of worship.

The committee recommend that this overture be answered by the adoption of the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, 1st, That the Presbyterian Church of the North (Old School) is to be looked upon simply as a separate and distinct ecclesiastical body; and that the ministers and agents of that church have no further or higher claims on our courtesy than any other churches of the same section of the country, which hold to the same symbols of faith and order with ourselves.

Resolved, 2d, That this Assembly has no reason for recommending any other usages or rules in respect to our fellowship with other ecclesiastical bodies than those that have long been familiar in all our Sessions and Presbyteries; and will not attempt to define afresh in what cases and in what degree errors in belief and practice shall exclude from our pulpits, or suspend ecclesiastical communion.

Resolved, 3d, That our ministers and churches be, and hereby are warned against all ministers, or other agents, who may come among us to sow the seeds of division and strife in our congregations, or to create schism in our beloved Zion. And owing to the peculiar reasons for prudence which now exist, we enjoin it upon our ministers and sessions to exercise special caution as to whom they admit to their pulpits; and in cases of doubt, to refer to the judgment of the Presbyteries the whole question of the nature and extent of courtesy or countenance they may extend.

Resolved, 4th, That the Assembly would remind sessions that in no case is it proper for them to invite ministers of other denominations statedly to occupy any of our pulpits without the consent of the Presbyteries, and the known purpose of such ministers, at the earliest suitable opportunity, to unite with us in ecclesiastical relations.

The meeting of the next General Assembly was appointed to be held in the First Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee, on the third Thursday of November, 1866, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Overtures Nos. 5 and 6 were taken up and adopted, and the Moderator of the Assembly, together with the Chairman of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, were appointed a committee to explain to the Presbytery of South Alabama the reason for declining to accede to the request. The report is as follows :

Overtures No. 5 and 6.—From the Synod of Alabama and the Presbytery of South Alabama respectively, requesting the Assembly to amend the rule requiring the examination of ministers on their reception by the Presbyteries, so as to make it optional.

The committee recommend that as there is no evidence that the rule has not worked well, the Assembly decline to make the change requested.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Arkansas, Georgia, Memphis, Mississippi, Virginia, and Texas, reported

severally that no records had been placed in their hands, and were discharged. The records of the Synod of South Carolina were, upon the recommendation of the committee, approved so far as written.

A letter from Rev. J. E. C. Doremus, in regard to the revised Hymn Book, was read and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication ; also a resolution on the same subject, offered by Rev. Mr. Berry.

On motion, the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

Monday Morning, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and spent half an hour in devotional exercises. The Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

The following members appeared and their names were enrolled : Rev. R. S. Gladney and R. A. Minnis, from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee ; Rev. Sam'l W. Davies and Thos. D. Chunn, from Presbytery of Arkansas, and D. H. Hill, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Concord.

On motion the Committee on the Records of the Synods of North Carolina and Nashville, not having any records to examine, were discharged.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Alabama reported, and upon their recommendation they were approved so far as written.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on Overtures No. 10, No. 11 and No. 13, and the reports on the same were accepted and adopted, and are as follows :

Overture No. 10,—From the Presbytery of North Alabama, requesting this Assembly to re-adjust the boundary between the Synods of Nashville and of Memphis, so as to throw the county of Madison, in the State of Alabama, into the Presbytery of North Alabama and the Synod of Nashville, and

Overture No. 11, from a member of the Synod of Memphis, requesting that in whatever arrangement of the boundary adopted, the churches and church property within the bounds of the Presbytery of Tuscumbia, shall belong still to the Synod of Memphis.

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the ministers and churches within the county of Madison, Alabama, formerly connected with the United Synod be adjudged to belong to the Presbytery of North Alabama for the present ; but that all the interests of the Presbytery of Tuscumbia and the Synod of Memphis be preserved intact. This temporary arrangement the Assembly adopts for want of the necessary information ; but it hereby urges the judicatories interested to endeavor to agree on a definite boundary line, and to report to the next Assembly, in order that this matter may be conclusively settled.

Overture No. 13, from the Synod of Mississippi, requesting the Assembly to adjust the matter of conflicting boundaries between that Synod and the Synod of Alabama, arising out of the terms of union with the United Synod.

The committee recommend that all the ministers and churches formerly connected with the Presbyteries of the United Synod, but which lie within the bounds of the Synod of Alabama, be and hereby are transferred to the Presbyteries within which they are respectively located.

The order of the day (being the Report on Popular Amusements,) having arrived, it was further postponed until 12 M., to take up the Report of the Standing Committee on Publication, which committee then proceeded to report respecting that work, and also on the subject of Psalmody.

The order of the day for 12 o'clock was taken up, (the consideration of the report of the Committee of Publication having been suspended for that purpose,) and the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Popular Amusements, (Overture No. 9,) was accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

Overture No. 9.—A paper from the Rev. Dr. Ross on the subject of fashionable amusements, containing three inquiries, with their proposed answers.

The committee recommend that the inquiries be answered as follows, viz:

1. "Whether every church session has the right to make it a rule that dancing and other amusements are disciplinary?"

Answer.—No church judicatory has a right to make any new rules of church membership, different from those contained in the constitution; but it is the undoubted right of the church session and of every other judicatory, to make a deliverance, affirming its sense of what is "an offence," in the meaning of the Book of Discipline, ch. 1, sec. 3.

2. "Whether such rule commonly exists in Presbyterian Churches?"

Answer.—Probably none of our judicatories are as faithful as they ought to be; but it is believed that the churches generally do, in some form, discountenance dancing. And the Presbyterian Church, through its supreme judicatory, has repeatedly borne its testimony against dancing, and other worldly amusements.

3. "Whether such rule is expedient; or what should be the mind of the whole body, and what its action?"

Answer.—It is the duty of every judicatory to enforce the teachings of our standards on this and other fashionable amusements, such as theatrical performances, card-playing, etc. And while the Assembly believes that the "lascivious dancing" declared to be forbidden in the seventh commandment, by the answer to the 139th question of the Larger Catechism, are not those usual in our best society, yet it is our belief that the tenor of the teachings of the scriptures and of our standards, is in direct opposition to this social usage. Christ's kingdom is not of this world; and the Apostle exhorts Christians not to be conformed to the world. Though we do not say that all these worldly amusements are "in their own nature sinful," it is clear that they "may tempt" those who engage in them, and others, to sin: and moreover, the Scriptures condemn them as worldliness. If the practice of the dance in mixed assemblies be not conforming to the world, it is difficult to name any offence against the injunction of the Apostle. Nor need the Church of Christ have any hesitancy in announcing its position on this subject; for the men of the world, with one consent agree that it is inconsistent with the nature of the Christian profession, for members of the church to engage in the dance.

In this connection, the Assembly would take occasion to exhort our Christian people to avoid the excesses into which they are in danger of being drawn by the demands of fashion. The scriptures forbid "revellings," and

all intemperate self-indulgence; with which teachings the prevalent custom of protracting social assemblies, with or without music and dancing, to the hours of the morning, but especially when accompanied with drinking or card-playing, is manifestly inconsistent. Moreover, the Assembly, observing that parties of pleasure are usually composed almost exclusively of unmarried young people, would give it as its earnest advice that the best form of social re-union be made to partake as much as possible of the style and tone of the family circle, in which youthful enjoyment is tempered by the presence of the older and married members.

The Assembly expresses itself with the more earnestness on this whole subject, because of the disposition which is observed in all parts of our borders to run into the inordinate indulgence of worldliness at this time, in forgetfulness of the mighty chastenings of God which are even yet upon us; and because we see members of our churches and our beloved baptized youth, in forgetfulness of the covenant of God, which is upon them, carried away with the world's delusions, to the subversion of the divine influences of the sanctuary, and to the neglect of the interests of their souls. Wherefore, the Assembly would urge our people to take the word of exhortation; to abstain from all forms of evil; and to study and pursue that sobriety which becometh the Gospel, so that the Church of Christ shall indeed be "a peculiar people." And we hereby exhort our ministers and church sessions to a discharge of their duties. Let them proceed by affectionate and faithful instruction from the pulpit, as well as in private; by admonition, and by such other measures as Christian prudence may dictate; but when all other means fail, then let them proceed to such methods of discipline as shall separate from the Church those who love the world and practice conformity thereto rather than to the law of Christ.

The special committee on Beneficiary Education, appointed by the Assembly of 1864, to report at the next assembly made a report, which was made the order of the day for 7 o'clock.

As unfinished business, the Report of the Standing Committee of Publication was then resumed, amended and discussed.

On motion Rev. J. D. Mitchell, D. D., Rev. John Miller, and Rev. R. S. Gladney, were added to the Committee on Foreign Missions.

The Assembly then adjourned to 7 o'clock P. M. Closed with prayer.

MONDAY EVENING, 7 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer by Dr. J. L. Kirkpatrick.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made reports on Overtures No. 12, 14 and 15—all of which were accepted and adopted, and are as follows.

Overture No. 12.—An inquiry from a member of this Assembly, asking whether a Presbytery has a right to ordain a licentiate to the work of the Gospel Ministry, simply because he desires it, although neither one or more churches have requested that he should be ordained.

The committee recommend the following answer, viz: Every office in the Church of God, according to the Scriptures and the standard of our Church, is a definite charge; and hence no man can lawfully be ordained to the Gospel Ministry unless it be to the performance of some work appropriate

to that office according to the constitution. And as one great evidence of a divine vocation is a call from a particular church, no man ought to be ordained, except in cases extraordinary, without such a call. Moreover, as persons are liable to mistake their calling, and as the office of the ministry is a permanent one, by Divine institution, Presbyteries ought to exercise great caution in ordaining Evangelists, lest the ministry be filled with intruders, and the Church be afflicted with a vagrant and secularized clergy. Nor ought they ever to do so, until full proof has been made of the licentiate, by the Presbytery which ordains him, and it has received such a favorable report concerning him from the churches, as gives the promise of wide usefulness.

The case mentioned in the memorial seems to violate all these principles. If the licentiate be not called to a particular church, and if he be not looking to the work of the Evangelist in frontier and destitute settlements, his ordination, sine titulo, would be not only irregular and unconstitutional, but manifestly unscriptural.

Overture No. 14.—An inquiry from a Ruling Elder of Flint River Presbytery, viz: Can a Ruling Elder who has removed from the bounds of his church, and who for a period of eighteen months or two years, has not communed or worshipped with the church, be allowed to resume his seat in the session without returning to reside in the limits of the congregation?

The committee recommend the following answer, viz; The provision of the constitution, that no man is eligible to the office of Elder unless he is a member of the church in which he is to serve, was evidently designed to prevent the existence of a non-resident Eldership. And since the rights of office and the discharge of its duties go together in the ordination engagements, this Assembly judges that when an Elder voluntarily and permanently removes beyond the bounds of a congregation, he is therefore disqualified from discharging the functions of his office, and is no longer to be considered as an Acting Elder.

Overture No. 15.—From the Presbytery of Central Mississippi, dissenting from certain language used in the minutes of the last General Assembly on the subject of valid and invalid baptism, and requesting this Assembly to make a new and more satisfactory deliverance.

The committee recommend the following minute, viz:

The language from which the Presbytery dissent, that this is "the true idea of baptism, viz: that it sets forth the death of Christ," taken by itself, is possibly liable to misapprehension. But inasmuch as the minute in question, in two or three different forms, does distinctly state the true doctrine, it is manifest that the last Assembly meant to teach that baptism "sets forth the death of Christ," by exhibiting to us the benefits thereof in their effectual application to us by the Holy Ghost. In the similar expression in the same deliverance where it is said that baptism "sets Him (Christ) forth as crucified for us and raised again for our justification," it is evident that this language is used in the sense previously explained in the minute itself, viz: "that baptism was designed to signify and seal our fellowship with Christ, in His death and in His resurrection, with all the benefits thereof." These expressions, thus explained, are assuredly in accordance with our standards and with the word of God.

The Committee on the Charter made a report which was accepted and adopted, and, on motion of Dr. J. L. Kirkpatrick, the Chairman of this committee was appointed to make known the last re-

solution in this report to the gentlemen mentioned in it. The report is as follows :

The Committee on the subject of the Charter would report—

That although no official information has been laid before the General Assembly, the following statement of facts touching the matter of the Charter, as provided for by the last Assembly, may be received as undoubtedly correct, viz :

Soon after the adjournment of the last General Assembly, an application was made to the Legislature of the State of North Carolina for an act of incorporation ; which application proved successful, and a charter was obtained with only one slight and immaterial modification of the terms proposed by the committee of the General Assembly. As required by the Charter, the trustees assembled in Charlotte, N. C., on —— day of ——, 1864, declared their acceptance of the Charter, and organized by the appointment of the Hon. Thomas C. Perrin, of Abbeville, South Carolina, President ; the Rev. Dr. B. M. Palmer, of New Orleans, Secretary ; and John Crawford, Esq., of Columbia, South Carolina, Treasurer.

It is believed that all that is now necessary to be done is for the General Assembly to appoint a committee to make an application to the Legislature of North Carolina, to change the name and style of the body to which the Charter has been granted from the " General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States," to " The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States."

We therefore, recommend that Joseph H. Wilson, James M. Hutchison, A. A. McLean, and Duncan Shaw, Ruling Elders of our Church, now holding seats in the Legislature of North Carolina, be appointed and requested to obtain from that body the above change in the Charter, and do what else, if anything, may be necessary to secure to us the full benefits of that instrument.

The order of the day, viz : The Report of the Committee on Beneficiary Education, was then heard, accepted, discussed, and re-committed to the committee, to report to the next Assembly.

Nominations for the Executive Committees of Education, Publication, Domestic Missions, and Foreign Missions, were announced, and the elections were made the order of the day for 10 o'clock to-morrow.

The Committee on Theological Seminaries made a Report, which was accepted, amended and adopted, and is as follows :

We have had placed in our hands the following papers, which we recommend be published in the appendix to the Minutes of this Assembly, viz ; The Report of the Faculty of Union Theological Seminary ; the Report of the Faculty of the Theological Seminary at Columbia, South Carolina ; the Report of the Treasurer, and a Statement from the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the same institution.

These documents brings us painful intelligence in regard to the present condition of these cherished institutions of the Church. The public calamities which have depressed all the interests of our portion of the land, have fallen with heavy weight upon them By the failure of the Confederate Government, and the partial destruction of the moneyed corporations in which the funds of these Seminaries were invested, their large endowments have been reduced to dimensions which are entirely inadequate to their support. But we learn also that in both instances the buildings and libraries, with

slight exceptions, have been preserved intact. The members of the two faculties also retain their chairs, and continue their labors, sustained, in great measure, by the liberality of the churches within the States in which they are located. While then these heavy losses are a most trying dispensation, we cannot but be encouraged by the indications of the Divine favor, in what is still preserved to us, and in the strong hold which these nurseries of the Church have upon the hearts of God's people.

The endowment of Union Seminary is reduced to ninety or one hundred thousand dollars, and even that does not yield at present one cent of income. But the Synod of Virginia, with the co-operation of the Synod of North Carolina, have adopted measures for the temporary support of both professors and students, and for replacing the lost endowment, which have already been attended with encouraging success. The Assembly has only an advisory control of this Seminary—but we suggest that they heartily commend the energy and zeal with which its managers have met the emergency, and urge upon the Churches such a response to these efforts as shall not only sustain it through its present trials, but in due time place it upon a broader foundation than ever.

The endowment of the Seminary at Columbia has been reduced from two hundred and seventy thousand to sixty-nine or seventy thousand dollars—only three thousand of which, or a little less, yields any cash income at present. Three professors, besides the emeritus professor, retain their positions. No provision has been made for their support, except that the Synod of South Carolina has initiated a system by which contributions in money, clothing and provisions are being secured for the support of both professors and students—the scholarships for the support of the latter being reduced in value to about five thousand dollars. But it is evident that this system, or some similar one, must become general, in order to meet the demand. The whole Church must come up to our help in this emergency. This institution must be sustained. In connection with the sister seminary in Virginia, it is indispensable as the grand means by which the Church is to extend or even maintain her strength, and her very life. Its past history is full of marks of the Divine recognition and blessing. Its fruits are found throughout all our bounds, and in many other parts of the earth. As an approved, established and successful means of sending forth laborers into the harvest, we cannot afford to dispense with it, even temporarily. We recommend, therefore, that the Assembly urge upon all our pastors and stated supplies to take up contributions in money and in other forms, as may be convenient, at the earliest practicable time, for the support of this Seminary, to be forwarded to the treasurer, Mr. Andrew Crawford, at Columbia, South Carolina, to be applied by the board of directors to the support of the professors—and upon the Presbyteries to give special attention to this call.

Two chairs in this Seminary are now vacant, viz: that of Pastoral Theology and Sacred Rhetoric, and that of Didactic and Polemic Theology. In the present condition of the endowment, and the state of the whole Church, we do not deem it expedient to attempt, at present, to fill these chairs. We lament the necessity for delay, but as the constitution of the Seminary provides that the duties of all vacant professorships shall be performed by the members of the existing faculty; as these members are already engaged in these duties, and as they are fully competent to discharge them to the satisfaction of the Church, we feel assured that the Seminary will go forward efficiently and successfully in its great work; and that it will continue to enjoy the confidence and support of the Church.

The committee nominate for re-election all the members of the existing Board of Directors, and Mr. Andrew Crawford as Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted by order of the committee.

C. A. STILLMAN, Chairman.

On motion, the hearing of the Pastoral Letter was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

TUESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Education made a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows :

The Standing Committee on Education report that they have examined the papers submitted to them. These papers contain nothing, as far as they relate to the past operations of the Assembly's committee, that require notice. Up to the close of the war, our young men were in the army, and the amount of funds collected was small ; and this amount became worthless when the Confederate Government was overthr own. Since the close of the war, nothing has been done by the committee—no beneficiaries assisted, no funds collected.

There are two thoughts suggested, however, in the brief report of the Executive Committee, that deserve the earnest attention of this Assembly, connected as they are with the future of our Church.

(1.) The first of these is " the increasing need of ministers of the Gospel to enter upon the labors of our vast field." During the last four years, very few have entered the ministry Nearly the whole of those who were in the various stages of preparation for the sacred work, were called into the field of civil strife and forced to suspend their studies. Not a few of these gave up their lives in the conflict ; others had their health so permanently broken that they have been compelled to abandon their cherished hope of preaching the Gospel; and still others perhaps by the delay thus incurred, and from other causes, have entered into secular pursuits for life. An interruption of four years in all preparation for the regular supply of ministers for our churches, is a serious matter. It creates a gap not easily filled ; and unless the church shall use extra exertion to supply this want, very sad indeed may be the consequences to our Zion. Ministers with us are not made in a day. It requires time to fit them for their holy work. And by the time that those who now enter upon their course of preparation, even under the most favorable circumstances shall be able actually to commence their labors, the want of ministers will be far greater than now. The prosperity of the country, it is hoped, will be rapidly returning. Our present feeble churches, crushed under the weight of accumulated misfortune, will be placed in a condition to sustain again the Gospel among them. New and important fields, in the increasing population and prosperity of the country, will open to us and invite us to occupy. With this prospect in view, can we be indifferent to the subject before us ? Are we not bound to labor as God may give us ability, and to pray with our whole heart, that the number of ministers may be greatly increased throughout our borders ? Next to the placing upon their feet our overthrown and crippled congregations, is the supply of faithful and devoted men to break to them the bread of life. The number of these is at present inadequate to the demand, should our Domestic Missionary operations be blessed to the sustentation of feeble churches ; while the vast field that, in human probability, will soon open to us in the regions beyond, will require many, many more.

(2.) The other thought suggested in the committee's report is, the greatly diminished means of those seeking the holy office. Many who, a short time since, were abundantly able to pursue their course of preparation for the ministry, independent of aid from the funds of the church, have suffered the loss of all worldly substance. They are poor indeed; and unless assistance shall be rendered them, they will necessarily be driven to other pursuits for a time—perhaps permanently. It is important that many of those at least who are now hoping to preach the Gospel, should meet with no unnecessary delay in preparation for the sacred work. An interruption already of four or five years has interfered seriously with their studies. Now that the way is open for a resumption of these studies, let not a further interruption be forced upon them from a want of means to support themselves at College, or at the Seminary. But unless our churches come up with a hearty good will to the help of these young men, this must inevitably be the result. Years must elapse—years of comparatively little profit to themselves, or the church—before they shall be able to enter the ministry; if, indeed, many of them shall not be so discouraged as to abandon all thought of entering upon the holy work.

With these thoughts before us, your committee would submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st. That our present condition as a Church demands special attention to the subject of ministerial education, both from our Presbyteries and our people, that worthy young men, desiring to enter the ministry, may not lack the necessary means of prosecuting their studies.

2d. That our churches be urged to contribute to this cause as God shall prosper them, recognizing the fact that it is a duty they owe to the Great Head of the Church, to assist those whom He has chosen to the holy work of the ministry, to secure that intellectual preparation necessary to efficiency in their work.

3d. That, while the need of ministers is great and pressing, Presbyteries should relax none of their vigilance in selecting those upon whom the charities of the church are to be bestowed. Let them be very careful on this particular point. The experience of the past shows the necessity for double diligence here. One unworthy subject receiving aid from the funds of the church, may do an injury to the cause that scores of worthy recipients will not be able to repair.

4th. That Presbyteries be urged to carefulness in observing the requirements of our standards in regard to education. Under present circumstances, there is a strong temptation to depart from these requirements. But let them be fully maintained.

5th. That ministers and people be urged to remember in all their approaches to the throne of the heavenly grace, that injunction of the blessed Saviour, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest." Let parents dedicate their sons to the blessed work of preaching Christ; and let all God's people seek out those who may esteem it a duty and a privilege to point sinners to "the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world."

In conclusion, the committee nominate, as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, the same persons selected as members of the Executive Committee of Publication, viz:

Secretary—Rev. E. T. Baird, D. D.

Treasurer—Wm. F. Taylor.

Members—T. V. Moore, D. D., C. H. Read, D. D., M. D. Hoge, D. D. Wm. Brown, D. D., W. H. White, P. F. Howard, Roger Martin, W. D. Cooke, James Gordon.

The following resolution respecting a day of prayer for the youth of our land, was adopted :

Resolved, That the General Assembly appoint the last Thursday of February as a day to be observed in special prayer, on behalf of the youth of our country, with a view to the increase of the ministry, and that the Sabbath preceding be appointed as a day of special instruction from the pulpit on that subject.

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence made a report which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence, beg leave to report, that almost nothing has been placed in their hands for consideration.

The Presbytery of Fayetteville alone has made a report, and that report merely states that it is believed that the churches contributed liberally during the past year, but their contributions became worthless by the fall of the Confederacy.

The subject of Systematic Benevolence has long been felt to be one of vital importance in connection with the Kingdom of Christ. The great work given to the visible church, in its organized capacity is to evangelize the nations of the earth—to convert the world that lieth in wickedness—from Satan to Christ—from sin to holiness. The instrumentality to be used is the truth of God, as revealed in the holy Scriptures. That truth is to be communicated by the dissemination of the Bible—by the circulation of religious tracts and books, and especially the preaching of the Gospel by the living ministry. The object aimed at in Systematic Benevolence is, to bring the resources of the whole Church to bear upon the grand and glorious enterprize. The best method of accomplishing this, perhaps, remains to be developed. That which seems to be most needed now is to have the people instructed in the grace of giving and brought up to the proper standard of Christian liberality.

To this end the committee recommend that the Presbyteries be urged to see to it, that their ministers diligently teach the people their duty and their interest too upon this subject. They should be made to feel and to believe that the Christian character cannot be complete unless the grace of liberality is prominently developed, and that the surest way to secure food and raiment, and the comforts of life for themselves is to seek first the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of Christ first—should be inscribed, as the motto, on every heart.

It is suggested to the Editors of religious papers that they keep this subject constantly before their readers—and to the Committee of Publication, that they issue as soon as practicable, a large number of tracts and small books, upon the subject, suitable for easy and wide-spread circulation.

The committee further recommend that it be enjoined upon the church sessions to adopt some plan by which every member of their congregations may have an opportunity and be appealed to, whether poor or rich, young or old, even in these times of trial, to contribute something to the various objects of benevolence, which demand their benefactions. That the sessions report to the Presbyteries, and that the Presbyteries report to the Assembly the plan they have adopted and their results.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES C. PATTERSON, Chairman.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave of absence to B. H. Craig, after Saturday evening's session, and to Geo. A. Caldwell and H. H. Jones from Monday evening.

The reading of the Narrative was made the third order of the day, after the Pastoral Letter is considered.

The Committee on Domestic Missions made a report, which was accepted.

While this report was pending, the Assembly took a recess for five minutes to allow the members of the Synods to consult respecting the appointment of Commissioners from each Synod to co-operate with the Central Executive Committee. These commissioners were appointed and their names inserted in the report of the Committee on Domestic Missions, which was then adopted, and is as follows :

The Standing Committee, to whom have been referred the reports of the Executive Committee of Domestic Missions, and certain matters relating to the same general cause, recommend to the General Assembly :

1. That the proceedings of the Executive Committee since the meeting of the last General Assembly, and their diligence in the prosecution of the work assigned them, also the report of the Treasurer, be approved ; and that these papers be published in the appendix to the Minutes of the Assembly.

2. That for the next year the Executive Committee consist of Rev. Drs. George Howe, J. B. Adger, J. R. Wilson, Revs. A. W. Miller, and J. L. Girardeau ; Prof. Joseph LeConte. Andrew Crawford, Henry Miller, and R. L. Bryan, Esqs. That Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D. D., be the Secretary, and Rev. Prof. James Woodrow, Treasurer.

3. That the General Assembly remind the Executive Committee and all our ministers and churches as well, that the work of Domestic Missions which has ever stood among the Christian enterprises of our age and country as one of unsurpassed importance, has within the last twelve months assumed a magnitude and an urgency which requires a large and instant increase of zeal, energy and self-sacrifice. Never since the planting of the church on this western continent, has a more pressing and authoritative call been addressed to the people of God to arise and build the walls and repair the waste places of Zion.

4. That the General Assembly solemnly admonish all our ministers, churches and people, and do enjoin upon them not in anywise to intermit their labors for the religious instruction of the colored people in our land. Whilst the change in the legal and domestic relations of this class does not release the church from its obligation to seek their moral and spiritual welfare, by all the means which it is competent to the church to employ, their helpless condition and their greater exposure to temptation, and leading to vice, irreligion and ruin, both temporal and eternal, which result from that change, make the strongest appeal to our Christian sympathies on their behalf, in their spiritual destitutions, and demand of us, whether we are office-bearers or private members of the church, redoubled diligence in supplying them with the saving ordinances of the Gospel.

5. That there be a committee to prepare and submit to the next General Assembly, for review and approval, a practical scheme or plan for the religious instruction of the colored people adapted to their now altered civil and social condition, and that this committee be earnestly desired to give to this task their best attention and efforts.

6. That the General Assembly adopt the suggestions of the Executive Committee in relation to the raising of a "sustentation fund" for the existing exigencies of our churches, but assign the conduct of this agency to the Executive Committee of Domestic Missions, also that a member from each Synod be appointed to co-operate with the general scheme set forth in their report.

7. That Rev. T. R. Welch, Little Rock, Arkansas, be the commissioner from the Synod of Arkansas; Rev. R. Nall, D. D., Tuskegee, Ala., from the Synod of Alabama; Rev. D. Wills, Macon, Ga., from the Synod of Georgia; Rev. J. O. Steadman, Memphis, Tenn., from Memphis; Rev. J. A. Lyon, D. D., Columbus, Miss., from Mississippi; Rev. W. E. Caldwell, Pulaski, Tenn., from Nashville; Rev. J. Rumple, Salisbury, N. C., from North Carolina; Rev. S. A. King, Milford, Texas, from Texas; and Rev. J. D. Mitchell, D. D., Lynchburg, Va., from Virginia.

8. That the General Assembly order collections in behalf of the sustentation fund, to be made in all our churches on the second Sabbath of February next, or as soon thereafter as practicable; and that the proceeds be forwarded immediately to the Treasurer of the Executive Committee, Professor James Woodrow, at Columbia, S. C., or to the Synodical Commissioners.

9. That the General Assembly express their profound gratification at the manifestation of Christian sympathy and kindness on the part of our brethren in Kentucky, as exhibited in their fraternal letter to this body, and in the name of the great Master, theirs and ours, accept their generous tender of aid in ministering to the necessities of our impoverished churches. Further —that the Moderator of the Assembly address a communication to these brethren, expressive of our feelings in this regard.

10. That the General Assembly appoint the Executive Committee our agent for receiving and disbursing such aid as may be forwarded to them by the Kentucky Board of Aid for Southern Pastors, and enjoin upon the committee promptness in distributing the benefaction according to the urgency of the necessities existing in the various portions of the country.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported respecting the religious education of the colored people. This report was adopted, and is as follows:

Overture No. 16.—What is the course to be pursued towards the colored people within our bounds?

On this subject your committee recommend the following action:

Whereas, the colored people never stood in any other relation to the Church than that of human beings lost with us in the fall of Adam; and redeemed with us by the infinitely meritorious death and sacrifice of Christ, and participants with us in all the benefits and blessings of the Gospel; and whereas, our churches, pastors, and people have always recognized this claim to Christian equality and brotherhood, and have rejoiced to have them associated in Christian union and communion in the public services and precious sacraments of the sanctuary:

Resolved, 1st, That the abolition of slavery by the civil and military powers, has not altered the relations as above defined, in which our Church stands to the colored people, nor in any degree lessened the debt of love and service which we owe to them, nor the interest with which we would still desire to be associated with them in all the privileges of our common Christianity.

Resolved, 2d, That whereas experience has invariably proved the advantages of the colored people and the white being united together in the worship of God, we see no reason why it should be otherwise, now that they are freedmen and not slaves. Should our colored friends think it best to separate

from us, and organize themselves into distinct congregations under white Pastors and Elders for the present, or under colored Elders and Pastors as soon as God, in his providence shall raise up men suitably qualified for those offices, this Church will do all in its power to encourage, foster and assist them.

Resolved, 3d, That the Rev. J. L. Girardeau, of Charleston Presbytery, Rev. David Wills, of Hopewell Presbytery, Rev. H. C. Alexander and Rev. Alexander Martin, of Roanoke Presbytery, and Dr. J. L. Wilson, be appointed a committee to report on this whole subject, and to recommend action to the next General Assembly.

Resolved, 4th, That the committee appointed in the above resolution, be also the committee provided for in the Report on Domestic Missions.

The order of the day, the election of the members of the Executive Committees, nominated yesterday, was postponed to hear the Pastoral Letter; which letter was then read and unanimously adopted.*

It was requested by the Assembly that this letter shall be printed by the religious papers of our Church, and that the Committee of Publication was directed to furnish five thousand copies in pamphlet form for circulation, and the letter was recommended to be read in all our churches on the second Sabbath in February next.

The Rev. Dr Ross obtained leave to enter the following dissent on the Minutes :

"I regret that I must dissent from that part of this admirable paper, which declares that the Church has no right to give its deliverances on political questions arising either in the State or Federal legislatures, or courts of justice. Because the Church is two-fold—the Church spiritual, and the Church as organized.

"In its first idea, it is not of this world. In its second, it is of the world in manifold relations. For illustration: it may be united to the State, and if not, it may decide what is the POWER over it. (See Rom xii : 1—4.) And it may declare when the power has ceased to be God's ministry for good. The only limitation to its action is Christian wisdom, and love.

"There are two ideas on this great and delicate subject. The committee represents the one—I believe the other. I know, too, that this General Assembly feels itself committed to the position taken in the Pastoral Letter.

"I thus desire to express my dissent, in a manner most delicate, from the opinions of brethren I so highly honor—while to every thing else in the letter I give my cordial assent. F. A. ROSS."

The Committee on Foreign Missions made a Report, which was adopted, as follows :

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Executive Committee on Foreign Missions, submit the following report :

The Presbyterian Church in the United States, now met in General Assembly, fully recognise the fundamental principle, that our Lord Jesus Christ constituted in this world a Kingdom, which is His Church, which is not of this world, and of which He is the only Head and King. It is limited by its constitution to no particular territory or locality, nor con-

*See Appendix.

fined to any particular nation or State, but was designed to be, and is, the Church of all ages, and of all nations, kindred, tongues and peoples.

To this Church He committed His word and ordinances, and commissioned it to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.

Accordingly, we acknowledge ourselves debtor to both the Greeks and to the barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise, so as much as in us lay, we are ready to preach the Gospel everywhere, and to all men, knowing no difference in our ministrations between the Jew and the Greek, the Barbarian and Scythian, the bond and the free; "for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him."

We acknowledge that to all that believe in Him, there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is in all, and through all, and over all.

We need no other argument for the work of Foreign Missions, than that which satisfied the mind of the great Apostle of the Gentiles, and the Church in his day, viz: "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?"

The Church of God is one, and her work is one, whether at home or abroad. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That our Foreign Missionary organization be continued, and that the Executive Committee is authorised to go forward with their work, and occupy, as far as practicable, whatever openings may present themselves in the providence of God in any part of the world; and especially to direct their attention to Africa as a field of missionary labor peculiarly appropriate to this Church, and with this view to secure as soon as practicable Missionaries from among the African race on this continent who may bear the Gospel of the grace of God to the homes of their ancestors.

2d. To sustain and carry forward this work, this Assembly solemnly and earnestly exhorts all our people to make liberal contributions to this object, according to their ability, to offer their fervent prayers for God's blessing upon our efforts, and to consecrate their sons to the service of Him who counted not His own life dear unto Him, but gladly gave it up for us all.

3d. That an opportunity may be statedly offered for special prayer for Foreign Missions, this Assembly recommends the observance of the monthly concert of prayer in all our congregations, and that contributions be made at the same time to this object.

4th. That this Assembly tenders to our Missionaries among the Indians, and those among whom they labor, our hearty affection and sympathy in all their distresses and desolations, and pledges the churches to an earnest effort as soon as practicable, to raise the amount stated by the Secretary to be necessary to their support, and the relief of their present distress.

5th. That in our Colleges, Theological Seminaries, and Sunday Schools, this subject be brought to the notice of our children and youth, and an effort be made to interest them in behalf of this cause.

6th. That the report of the Executive Committee be approved and printed in the appendix to the Minutes, and that our religious newspapers be requested to publish the same. Also, that the Treasurer's report be approved and printed in the appendix to the Minutes.

The committee unite in the nomination of the same officers nominated by the Committee on Domestic Missions.

The following persons were elected members of the Executive Committees of Publication and Education:

Secretary, Rev. E. T. Baird, D D., Treasurer, Wm. F. Taylor; Com.

mittee, Rev. E. T. Baird, D. D , Rev. T. V. Moore, D. D., Rev, C. H. Read, D. D , Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D., Rev. Wm. Brown, D. D., Wm. F. Taylor, W. H. White, P. F. Howard, Roger Martin, W. D. Cooke and James Gordon.

The following were elected members of the Executive Committees of Domestic Missions and Foreign Missions :

George Howe, D. D., J. B. Adger, D. D., J. R. Wilson, D. D., Rev. A. W. Miller, Rev. J. L. Girardeau, Prof. Joseph LeConte, Andrew Crawford, Esq., Henry Muller, Esq., and R. L. Bryan, Esq., with J. Leighton Wilson, D. D., Secretary, and Prof. James Woodrow, Treasurer.

The following persons were appointed Directors of the Theological Seminary at Columbia :

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer. Ministers–Rev. John Douglas, Rev J. R. Wilson, D. D., Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D D., Rev. S. H. Hay, Rev. E. P. Palmer, Rev. Rufus K. Porter, Rev. Wm. Banks. Ruling Elders—Hon. T. C. Perrin, Hon. J. A. Inglis, J. A. Ansley, Esq.

The following resolutions were adopted respecting the endowments of Professorships in this Seminary :

Resolved, That, in the judgment of this General Assembly, it is very important that the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Columbia shall at once enter upon the work of re-endowing the Professorships of that institution.

Resolved, That the Churches and Presbyteries be urged to sustain this prime interest of our Seminary and that their gifts and contributions be prompt and liberal.

Resolved, That the Assembly commend the promptness and zeal of the Synods of North Carolina and Virginia, in their efforts to resuscitate Union Theological Seminary in its endowment.

The report of the Committee on the Narrative was read and adopted.*

The Rev. Drs. J. N. Waddell and C. A. Stillman, were added to the committee to report respecting the religious instruction of the colored population to the next General Assembly.

A resolution was adopted as an addition to the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, and then the report was adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Publication Committee, would respectfully report that they have examined the same with care, and would embody their views in the following statements and resolutions :

That in view of the great need of religious literature among us, both for Sabbath schools and general reading; in view of the difficulty of publishing anything like an adequate supply for some time to come ; and also in view of the advantages to be derived from a judicious selection of suitable books, both in this country and in Europe, the following resolutions are offered :

1st. Resolved, That the Publication Committee be charged with the duty

*See Appendix.

of most carefully selecting from every available source, whether in Europe or America, the very best tracts and books suited for Sabbath schools and general reading, and have these books stamped with their imprimatur, so that they may be known to our people as bearing their endorsement.

2d. That the Executive Committee be directed to establish depositories for these books at such points as, in the judgment of the committee, may best facilitate their circulation. That these books be sold at a small advance on the cost, and the proceeds of the same be re-invested in other books that may be in demand.

3d. That an effort be made to raise $50,000 (as soon as practicable) for the purpose of setting this scheme in operation, to supply the destitute with books and tracts, and to print such books and tracts as may be in special demand; and further, that annual collections be taken up in all our churches for sustaining this general cause.

4th. That the committee be further instructed to recommence, as soon as practicable, and under such arrangements as they may think best, the publication of a newspaper for the use of our children and Sabbath schools; and that it be recommended to all our churches and Sabbath schools to give this paper as wide a circulation as possible.

5th. That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to Dr. Leyburn for his past and very effective services as Secretary, and that Rev. E. T. Baird, D. D., be selected to fill that place.

The other members of the committee elected, were:

Wm. F. Taylor, Treasurer; Rev. T. V. Moore, D. D., Rev. C. H. Read, D. D., Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D., Rev. Wm. Brown, D. D., Messrs. W. H. White, P. F. Howard, Roger Martin, W. D. Cooke, James Gordon.

The Committee on Publication would further report, in relation to the letter of the chairman of the Committee on Psalmody, that the suggestion in relation to a new committee, be adopted in part, so as to include a part of the old in the new. That, according to this arrangement, the following be the committee, viz: Drs. T. V. Moore, Moses Hoge, C. H. Read, William Brown, J. L. Kirkpatrick, Thos. Smythe, J. D. Mitchell, R. L. Dabney, and B. M. Palmer; Rev. Messrs. Dod and J. L. Girardeau.

1st. That this committee be instructed to complete their work as soon as possible, consistently with its great importance, and report to the next Assembly.

2d. That the paper presented to the Assembly by Mr. Berry, be referred to this committee.

3d. That this committee be instructed to initiate measures for the compilation of suitable music for the Hymn Book, which will be adapted alike for social and public worship, and for the use of Sabbath schools.

4th. That the Committee on Psalmody be instructed to select from the book which they may compile, such hymns as may be especially adapted to the use of Sabbath Schools, which, with such other hymns as the committee may deem suitable, shall be printed in a separate volume.

The Assembly then adjourned till half-past 3 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Walker, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be and are hereby tendered to Mr. James Miller for the fidelity and diligence with which he has discharged the duties of Treasurer of the committees of Education and Publication, and also to the other members of these committees who have so zealously labored to make these institutions a blessing to our Zion.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and the Judicial Committee, reported that no business had come before them, and were discharged.

The committee appointed last year to report to this Assembly on the subject of Voluntary Societies operating in our congregations, having failed to make a report, was continued, and directed to report to the next General Assembly.

On motion of Dr. Kirkpatrick, the thanks of the General Assembly were returned to the citizens of Macon, to the authorities of the several churches offered for the use of the body, to the railroads offering facilities of travel to members, and to the public press of the city ; and the pastor of the church is requested to make known this resolution in such manner as may be deemed best.

A motion was made by Col. Preston to take up a resolution in regard to liturgies, which had been laid on the table at the last General Assembly, which motion was lost.

The Minutes of to-day were then read and approved.

It was then moved and adopted, that this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly constituted in a similar manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Memphis, on the third Thursday (15th) of November, 1866, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly was dissolved accordingly. Closed with singing, prayer, and the Apostolic benediction.

WILLIAM BROWN,
Permanent Clerk.

JOSEPH R. WILSON, *Stated Clerk*

APPENDIX.

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NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THEIR CARE :

Beloved Brethren :—" Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." Since the meeting of our last Assembly, the clangor of war has ceased to reverberate through our beloved country. The black cloud which lowered so portentously in the political horizon, has burst, and left behind it deplorable evidences of the tornado of which it was the harbinger. To-day, however, as the supreme judicatory of our Church, we are permitted to send you our fraternal and affectionate salutations amid comparative peace and quietude.

Although the untoward termination of the sanguinary conflict has blighted the hopes and disappointed the expectations of thousands, we deem it our duty, as part of the people of God, to thank and praise His holy name, because the sword has been sheathed, and the precious lives of multitudes of our valuable citizens have been spared.

Whilst we mourn over the sad scenes which we are compelled to contemplate, it is exceedingly gratifying to enumerate some of the tokens of God's goodness and grace which He has vouchsafed to us as a Church.

From the reports of the Presbyteries presented to the Assembly, we learn that, notwithstanding the terrible trials and tribulations through which our people have passed ; notwithstanding the lamentable fact that some of our churches have to gaze, with riven hearts, on the sanctuaries of the living God demolished, and others on their houses of worship desecrated and delapidated, still we have much cause for praise and gratitude to our covenant-keeping God, who has fulfilled to us the promise that " though He may visit the iniquities of Israel with a rod and their transgressions with stripes, yet His loving kindness will He not utterly take from them, nor suffer His faithfulness to fail."

We are happy to inform you that the reports from the Presbyteries of Cherokee, Montgomery, Florida, Fayetteville and South Alabama, communicate the pleasing intelligence that some of their churches have enjoyed seasons of refreshing from the presence of

the Lord. And the last named Presbytery also reports that, at its last meeting, two candidates for the Gospel ministry were taken under its care. The Presbytery of Tuscaloosa, also, has been most signally blessed by a gracious and extensive revival in four of its churches ; the result of which was the reception of one hundred members on profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. And these glorious results have been induced by protracted and persevering efforts, on the part of Christ's ministers, in the pulpit from day to day, and by the fervent prayers of God's people.

In the important field of Domestic Missions, also, the laborers have reaped a rich harvest. In the army, hundreds, perhaps thousands of gallant soldiers, have, we trust, believed to the saving of their souls, and put on " the whole armor of God, that they may be able to withstand in the evil day."

It also affords subject matter for thankfulness, that, in almost all our churches, the people enjoy the inestimable privilege of having the glorious Gospel of God's dear Son statedly and faithfully preached ; that the congregations are, very generally, large, attentive and interesting ; and that in many places where there have been no special manifestations of the influences of God's Spirit, many have, we believe, been effectually called, and adopted into the family of God.

Another indication of the presence and power of God's grace in our midst, we derive from the fact that, although the property of our people has been devastated, and their homes desolated, several of our churches express a laudable determination to support those faithful ministers of Christ who have sympathized with them in their sorrows, comforted their hearts in the dark night of afflictions, and participated in their privations and perils. The duty of sustaining the laborers in the Lord's vineyard, we would earnestly urge on all our churches, especially at the present time, lest, owing to the high price of provisions and of the other necessaries of life, they may be constrained to turn aside to secular avocations, in order to obtain a comfortable support for their families, which the scanty salaries they generally receive, as ministers, do not afford. And should they be compelled, from necessity, to pursue other employments, you well know that their spirituality would be injured, their pulpit ministrations would become less edifying, the piety of our communicants would be diminished, and the spread of the Gospel retarded.

Several of the Presbyterial reports present another encouraging item. They inform us that the youth of our churches continue, regularly, to receive instruction in our Sabbath Schools. We have always attached the seal of our approbation to these institutions, and fully recognized their beneficial influence in the moral and religious culture of the young ; but, we fear, it not unfrequently happens that parents depute to Sunday School teachers the important duty, and delightful privilege, which appertain to themselves, of training up their children " in the nurture and admonition of the

Lord." We would, therefore, caution those of you who are heads of families, against the sin of violating your baptismal vow, by substituting the teachings of the Sabbath School for that catechetical instruction and those lessons of piety which should be imparted by Christian parents to their children in the family circle, and from the performance of which no earthly institution can absolve you. And we would remind you, that our Church has always regarded and recommended the Shorter Catechism of the Westminster Assembly, as a most excellent compend of the fundamental doctrines of our holy religion.

In view of these evidences of the gracious presence of God in our Zion, with devout gratitude we would exclaim: "Bless the Lord, O, our souls, and all that is within us, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O our souls, and forget not all His benefits, who forgiveth all our iniquities, who healeth all our diseases!" But there are other facts related in the Narratives which are well calculated to evoke from the heart of each of us the lamentation of the prophet: "O that my head were waters and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!"

It causes surprise and sorrow to learn that so very many of our churches have neglected to make any, even the smallest, contributions to the support of the committees which the Assembly has elected to carry on the benevolent operations of the Church. These committees need additional funds to give greater efficiency to their important work; and the Committee on Theological Seminaries, at the present meeting, reports the painful intelligence that "the public calamities have fallen so disastrously on these cherished institutions as to reduce their endowments to dimensions wholly inadequate to their support."

That giving is a means of grace, is a doctrine which has long been taught by our Church, but it seems that many of our churches have practically ignored this truth, and have forgotten "the words of our Lord Jesus Christ—that it is more blessed to give than to receive." It is true, that the impoverished condition of our people will not justify the expectation of contributions as large and liberal as those which were bestowed in former years; but, neither will our present poverty warrant the manifest indifference and delinquency which most of our churches exhibit. The degree of responsibility is, "according to that a man hath, and not according to that a man hath not;" and on this principle the contribution of the two mites of the poor widow was lauded by our Lord above all the costly offerings of the affluent.

We would thus earnestly impress on every member of the Church, the duty of making self-denying efforts to sustain these benevolent enterprises. Until we endeavor to attain to the measure of duty in this regard, it would be presumption to expect that copious showers of Divine grace shall be affused on our churches. God says: "Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house, that there may

be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith—if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

We have also to express our deep sorrow that the vice of intemperance, which so frequently causes the ruin of families, the loss of health, fortune and character, and the damnation of immortal souls, prevails, not, indeed, among our members, but within the bounds of several of our congregations ; and that in other parts of our Zion there is apparent among our communicants an apathy in regard to spiritual things, and a sinful conformity to the pleasures and fashions of the world, which tend to obliterate that plain line of demarcation which should ever exist between the Church and those who possess no love for the Saviour, and make no professions of piety.

In regard to the instruction of the colored population, a field once so faithfully cultivated, and so fruitful, the reports narrate that there is, of late, a marked change in their religious deportment. Instead of crowding the courts of the Lord, as formerly, and making the churches resound with their hymns of praise, and listening with tearful eyes to the glad tidings of salvation, comparatively but few of them are seen in the assemblies of the saints. This change, it is believed, is to be attributed to the insinuations of designing men, who, for sinister purposes, have sought to alienate their affections from those ministers whom they once delighted to honor, and whose preaching was blest to their salvation and edification ; and to a misconception of the relations which we sustain towards them as a Church, and a misapprehension of the feelings we entertain for them as a people. We have, however, evidences recently, of an improvement among them, and a desire to seek the good old paths, and again to listen to the proclamation of the great truths of religion.

But there is another topic to which we desire particularly to call your attention. Most of the narratives make the painful and humiliating statement that prayer meetings are sadly neglected in our churches. Brethren, if there ever was a time in our history when faithful, fervent, wrestling prayer was needed, that time is the present. Now, when vice in its various forms is rampant ; now, when infidelity is raising its hydra head ; now, when a spirit of fanaticism prevails ; when we have melancholy proof that pride, covetousness, worldly-mindedness and lukewarmness are among the sins of many who profess to have devoted themselves to God ; now is the time when it is especially incumbent on us all—ministers and people—to cry mightily to the Hearer of Prayer, who says to us : "Call upon me in the day of trouble ; I will deliver thee ; and thou shalt glorify me. Ask and ye shall receive ; seek and ye shall find ; knock and it shall be opened unto you."

Our national sins have aroused God's wrath, and caused Him to visit us with sore national calamities and bereavements. Instead of looking, as we have reason to believe some do, to human wisdom

and an arm of flesh for our deliverance, let us recognize Jehovah as the King of Nations as well as King of Saints. Let us cordially acquiesce in the dispensations of his inscrutable Providence, remembering that His divine supervision extends over peoples and nations, and that His all-seeing eye beholds, and His omnipotent arm over-rules, for His own glory and their good, the most minute events in the lives of His saints. "The hairs of your head are all numbered." We exhort you, therefore, brethren, to humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, and with contrition confess that "He has punished us less than our iniquities deserve." If, with meekness and penitence we confess our sins, we have the sweet assurances of God's word, that incalculable temporal benefits and ineffable spiritual blessings shall be granted to us as a nation and as a Church. "Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even unto me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness, and repenteth Him of the evil. Who knoweth if He will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind Him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord your God. Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them; wherefore should they say among the people, where is their God? Then will the Lord be jealous for His land, and pity His people. Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto His people, Behold I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord, shall be delivered; for in Mount Zion and Jerusalem shall be deliverance. Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jerusalem, whom I have chosen. For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thy offspring, and they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows among the water courses."

"Now, the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever."

GEO. HOWE,
Moderator.

A PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THEIR CARE.

Beloved Brethren in the Lord :—Such were the convulsions of the country and interruptions of travel last Spring, that a meeting of the General Assembly of our Church at the time appointed, was impracticable. It has been now convened under circumstances of peculiar interest, involving the gravest responsibility. From this fact arises the special duty of addressing a pastoral letter to the churches under our care, by which they may be the more comfortably re-assured concerning various points of great importance connected with our position, and be counselled in faithful love concerning the solemn obligations resting upon them.

That these weighty matters may be the more distinctly set in order before you, let the following points, concisely presented, be brought under your prayerful consideration :

I. *Our Relation to the Civil Governments of the Country.*—The storm of war has, during the four years past, swept over nearly every part of our bounds ; a war so vast in its proportions, so bitter in its animosities, so desolating in its effects, as to make it an astonishment to the nations. Its sacrifices in treasure and in blood, its public losses and private griefs, swell beyond all calculation. As to its particular causes, or upon which party rests the blame, chiefly or wholly—these are questions which the Church of Christ has no commission to decide. Beyond a doubt, however, its great root is to be found in those lusts which war in the members. Of these it becomes us to own our full share, and because of them to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God.

During the prevalence of this war, " the higher powers" actually bearing rule over most of our bounds, and to which under the word of God we were required to be " subject," were the Government of the Confederate States, and those of the several States constituting it. By the event of the war, the first has been overthrown, and the second, as constituents thereof, are changed. The " higher powers," now bearing rule over us, are confessedly the Government of the United States, and those existing in the States wherein we reside. The rightfulness of these several authorities, or to which of them the allegiance of our people, as citizens, was, or is primarily due, are matters upon which a judicatory of the Church has no right to pronounce judgment. The relation of the Church of Christ to civil governments is not one *de jure* but *de facto*. As right and good, or wrong and wicked, they rise and fall by the agency or permission of God's providence. In either case, the attitude of the Church towards them is essentially the same. As long as they stand and are acknowledged, obedience is to be enjoined as a duty, factious resistance condemned as a sin. But in regard to conflicts between existing governments, or as to movements in society, peaceful or otherwise, to effect political changes,

the Church as such has no more control over them, than it has over the polls of the country. If it has authority to uphold on the one side, it has equal power to condemn on the other ; if to suppress a political movement, then also to instigate it. In truth it has neither ; and to assert the contrary is to corrupt the Church in its principles, forever embroil it with the strifes of the world, and plunge it headlong into ruin.

Under these views, and considering the extraordinary conflict through which the country has passed, as well as the extraordinary circumstances in which it is now placed, it is incumbent upon us to exhort you, brethren, to "obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves." Fulfil with scrupulous fidelity all your obligations to the governments of the land ; remembering the duty of this compliance, "not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake." "For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men."

II. *Our Relation to the Church.*—It is not necessary we should here minutely define the nature of the Church. It is enough to say that it is a kingdom, though in the world yet not of it ; that it is a body of which Christ is the sole Head ; purchased by His blood, to the exclusion of all other merit, and renewed by His Spirit, to the exclusion of all other power ; and that it is united to Him by the bond of faith. From this living Head the members receive all their vitality, control and protection. It is therefore a spiritual body. Its sole commission is to preach the Gospel to every creature, and it is called to that holy living which the gospel enforces.

It follows from this, according to the admirable statement of our Confession of Faith, chap. 31, sec. 4, that—"Synods and Councils are to handle or conclude nothing but that which is ecclesiastical ; and are not to intermeddle with civil affairs, which concern the Commonwealth, unless by way of humble petition in cases extraordinary, or by way of advice, for satisfaction of conscience, if they be thereunto required by the civil magistrate."

It is equally clear from this and from what was before observed, that the civil magistrate or military ruler has not the shadow of a right to restrain the freedom of the Church, by excluding its own chosen pastors and imposing others, or closing its houses of worship, or visiting pains and penalties upon its ministers or members, for using the privilege of worship.

How often both of these great principles have been trampled into the dust within a few years past, melancholy facts most fully attest. Of all such utter confusion of the things of Cæsar with the things of God, it becomes our people to beware, and against it faithfully to bear witness.

The events passing before us bring up with fresh power the importance of keeping in mind this very point, this vital truth, that the Church of Christ is indeed a *spiritual* kingdom, and is *therefore* like Mount Zion, that abideth forever. The Church is safe through

the deluge, but only in her ark, not in the ark of the State. It is owing to this fact, and to this only, that she can ride out the storms that leave the shores of this world strewn with the wreck of everything which the hand of man has constructed.

But it is our desire, brethren, to counsel you at present concerning the special relation you sustain to this part of the Church with which you are more immediately connected. Four years ago we were constrained to organize a separate General Assembly. This was done because of an attempt by a part of the Church to impose a yoke upon our consciences, "which neither we nor our fathers were able to bear." Our testimony upon this and other points of great interest, is before the Christian Churches of the world, in the address made to them by the General Assembly of 1861; and if any schism exists, we are willing the impartial judgment of men should be passed upon the question, as to where the sin of it lies. This organization was formed out of elements among the oldest in the history of the Presbyterian Church in this country. It carries with it nearly one-third of the whole original Church. It includes a territory of twelve States. It embraces ten Synods, forty-six Presbyteries, one thousand ministers, and about seventy thousand church members, and was effected and has been continued with a unanimity which has hardly a parallel in the history of such movements. It was not made to subserve any political or secular interest whatsoever. The reasons for its continuance not only remain as conclusive as at first, but have been exceedingly strengthened by events of public notoriety, occurring each succeeding year.

It may be proper at this point to declare concerning other churches in the most explicit manner, that, in the true idea of "the communion of saints," we would willingly hold fellowship with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity; and especially do we signify to all bodies, ministers, and people of the Presbyterian Church struggling to maintain the true principles of the same time-honored Confession, our desire to establish the most intimate relations with them which may be found mutually edifying and for the glory of God.

But, whilst earnestly exhorting you to walk in love towards all your fellow-Christians, peculiar circumstances, well known, make it our plain duty to put you on your guard against attempts to disturb and divide your congregations. We are a branch of the Church as complete in our organization, as thoroughly distinct and harmonious, and as secure in our prospects as any other in the land. Appreciating this fact, we are sure common self-respect, to say nothing of a jealous care for the honor of your Church will repel all unworthy attempts of men who may lie in wait to deceive, and to cause you to fall from your own steadfastness.

III. *Our Relations to the Negro Population.*—The extraordinary circumstances in which, by recent events, this people are now placed, and our relations to them is a subject too immense

to be passed over in silence. The former relation between our citizens and most of this population, was that of master and servant. The address of our General Assembly before referred to, contains the only full, unambiguous, and deliberate, and authoritative exposition of our views in regard to this matter. We here re-affirm its whole doctrine to be that of Scripture and reason. It is the old doctrine of the Church, and the only one which keeps its foundations secure. That address contains, among other statements, the following :

"We would have it distinctly understood that in our ecclesiastical capacity, we are neither the friends nor the foes of slavery ; that is to say, we have no commission either to propagate or abolish it. The policy of its existence, or non-existence, is a question which exclusively belongs to the State. We have no right, as a Church, to enjoin it as a duty or condemn it as a sin. Our business is with the duties which spring from the relation : the duties of the masters on the one hand, and of their slaves on the other. These duties we are to proclaim and enforce with spiritual sanctions. The social, civil, political problems connected with this great subject transcend our sphere, as God has not entrusted to His Church the organization of society, the construction of government, nor the allotment of individuals to their various stations. The Church has as much right to preach to the monarchies of Europe, and the despotisms of Asia, the doctrines of republican equality, as to preach to the governments of the South the extirpation of slavery."

This relation is now overthrown, suddenly and violently ; whether justly or unjustly, in wrath or in mercy, for weal or for woe, let history and the Judge of all the earth decide. But there are two considerations of vital interest which still remain.

One is, that while the existence of slavery may, in its civil aspects, be regarded as a settled question, an issue now gone, yet the lawfulness of the relation as a question of social morality, and of scriptural truth, has lost nothing of its importance. When we solemnly declare to you, brethren, that the dogma which asserts the inherent sinfulness of this relation is unscriptural and fanatical ; that it is condemned not only by the word of God, but by the voice of the church in all ages ; that it is one of the most pernicious heresies of modern times ; that its countenance by any church, is a just cause of separation from it, (1 Tim. 6, 1—5) we have surely said enough to warn you away from this insidious error, as from a fatal shore.

Whatever therefore we may have to lament before God, either for neglect of duty or for actual wrong towards our servants, while the relation lasted, we are not called, now that it has been abolished, to bow the head in humiliation before men, or admit that the memory of many of our dear kindred is to be covered with shame because, like Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, they had bond-servants born in their house, or bought with their money ; and who now, redeemed by the same precious blood, sit down together in the kingdom of God.

The other consideration connected with this subject is *the present*

condition of this people. We may righteously protest that with their wretchedness, already incalculably great, that with their prospects, to human view dismal as the grave, our church is not chargeable; that it may hold up its hands before heaven and earth, washed of the tremendous responsibility involved in this change in the condition of nearly four million of bond-servants, and for which it has hitherto been generally conceded they were unprepared.

But in this dispensation of Providence which has befallen the negroes of the Southern States, and mainly without their agency, your obligations to promote their welfare, though diminished, have not ceased. Debtors before to them when bound, you are still debtors to them free. You are bound to them not only by the ties of a common nature, a common sin, but a common redemption also. They have grown up around and in your households, have toiled for your benefit, ministered to your comforts and wants, and have often tenderly, faithfully nursed you in sickness. They are still around your doors, in the bosom of your community. Many of them are your fellow-heirs of salvation. Together with you, they all need it; greatly need it for time—for eternity. We are persuaded you will not turn away from them in this day of their imagined millenium—we fear of terrible calamity. Do all you can for their best welfare, and do it quickly, for they already begin to pass rapidly away. "By pureness, by knowledge, by long suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report," let it be shown to all men that nothing shall withdraw the sympathy of your heart or the labor of your hand from a work which must of necessity and ever rest chiefly upon those who dwell in the land, not upon the strangers who visit it. If their condition is made better, if souls are plucked as brands from the burning, you will have the comfort of knowing that you were, under God, instrumental in such happy results. Should our worst fears be realized, and their doom be sealed, you will have a pure conscience at the bar of the final Judge.

We have thought it important to restate the general principles here presented, not because your faithful devotion to them is doubted, but because, as those who watch for your souls, we "would not be negligent, putting you always in remembrance of these things, though you know them, and be established in the present truth," and because, to the reproach of religion in many places, they have sunk out of view, and the Church of God has been thereby brought into perilous times

Bear with us now while we would, in faithful love, counsel you concerning the solemn responsibilities resting upon you.

Think, first, of the *magnitude of the work thrown upon our hands.*

We find ourselves with our two theological seminaries much shattered in their resources. Most of our colleges are financially

disabled, many almost ruined. Many of our houses of worship are despoiled or laid in ashes, our people impoverished, our ministers scantily supported. We are indeed deeply afflicted. But shall we therefore draw back, sink down into despair, leave our beloved Church to sit in sackcloth, and gross darkness to cover the people? Every heart cries out—"This must never be!" On the contrary, our Church must invigorate and extend all her present schemes of action, as well as embrace new ones as they offer themselves. If so, then she must address herself to this work with an energy she has never yet known. But how shall she be strengthened for it? Allow us, in a few words, to remind you of old, well-tried principles; for our rules and plans need keeping rather than mending, and there is ample room prepared within the scope of our cherished schemes, for bringing out of the grave an untold treasure of *buried talent*, and making it useful in the Master's cause. To effect this,

We must have a supreme consecration to God. "Ye are not your own, ye are bought with a price," must be engraven more deeply upon our hearts. The great practical drawback in the Church is not that the consecration of its members is insincere, but that it is not habitually supreme. It does not subordinate everything else to the cause of Christ. Is it any wonder, then, that the aim of life is so earthly, and the work of life so feebly grasped? If ever our Zion shall arise and shine, it will be under the light of a people intensely, constantly devoted to doing the will of God. "Wherefore we beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Remember that there is Work for All.—One infallible sign of a redeemed heart is a desire to know and obey God. Its very birth-cry is: "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" When you became members of the church, from the very nature of the transaction, some of its interest was transferred to your keeping; you assumed a part of its responsibility. In your profession you identified yourself with the Lord Jesus, with his cause and kingdom.

Is this, however, a deep, or a very general impression? Is it not manifest that multitudes come into the Church with the feeblest conviction of duty in view? They seem hardly to know or to care whether the Master has done such a thing as to give to "every man his own work." We entreat you to remember that He has omitted none of His servants in the great command, "occupy till I come." And it is only when in Him the whole body is fitly framed together, and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, that it maketh increase to the edifying of itself in love.

If, then, contemplating the magnitude of our work, we shall consecrate ourselves supremely to Him who gave himself for us, and then remember that there is a work for all to do, what will be the result?

The treasury of the Lord will be full. There will be such an outpouring by our people as has never been known in our history. "All experience shows that the Church has never been replenished in her operations by the ample bounty of a few men, so much as by the collected mites of her innumerable poor disciples." In this, as in other respects, the history of the Free Church of Scotland is full of instruction for us. Are we poor? So were they. But nobly did they bear out with them, not only their grand testimony to the supreme Headship of Christ as King in Zion, but the burden also of sustaining every scheme of benevolence necessary to the complete equipment of their organization. Are we afflicted as well as poor? So were the churches in Macedonia; yet, "in the great trial of their affliction, their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality." Let but this spirit thoroughly pervade our people, and what shall we soon witness? You will educate your ministry, and then amply support them; and to do this you will give a generous support to your colleges and theological seminaries. You will supply your people with the printed truth in every proper form of it, and therefore you will give them the Bible, the tract, and the religious volume. You will plant churches where they are needed; you will push church enterprise into every accessible part of the land. The Holy Spirit will be poured out from on high. Our desolations shall be repaired, until "streams shall break out in the desert, and the wilderness shall blossom as the rose"

And now, brethren, "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." "Consider what we say, and the Lord give you understanding in all things." Strive to "stand complete in all the will of God." Strive to be "living epistles known and read of all men." Serve the Lord in cheerfulness. Refrain from murmuring; pray for a meek and submissive spirit. Desire more that your trials should be sanctified than removed. So forgive your enemies that you may be able to "lift up holy hands without wrath or doubting." Be humble, watchful, prayerful and useful. Do all in your power to minister to the comfort of those who minister to you in holy things. Try to do good in a Saviour's church and a world of sin. Let piety be shown at home; let the Holy Sabbath be indeed a day for God, and let your children be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Live daily near to the Cross of the Saviour, and then will all these fruits of righteousness abound through Jesus Christ, to the praise of the glory of his grace.

You have been called to pass through deep waters; you have had sorrow upon sorrow. It was the path your Saviour trod, and He will grant you in it the comfort of His love, and the fellowship of His Spirit. Some of our dear brethren in Christ, and some of them in the ministry, have had cruel mockings and scourgings,

have suffered stripes and imprisonments, and the loss of all things. Our prayer has been with you in your calamity. Cast your burden on the Lord, and He will sustain you. Remember that the Church of God has often passed through the heated furnace, but the form of the Son of God has been seen with her, and she is still unconsumed. "The bush"—said Rutherford, that great light of the Church of Scotland—"the bush has been burning these four thousand years, but no man hath seen the ashes of that fire to this day." Be faithful unto death. Very soon will all these troubles end, and your home be reached, into which no enemy shall ever enter, and from which no friend shall ever depart.

We desire to tell you, dear brethren, and with thankful, joyful hearts, how good we have felt it to be here. We have taken sweet counsel together, and gone to the house of God in company. We are in peace and love one with another. No strife distracts our beloved Zion. We depart to our homes thanking God and taking courage, resolved to stand in our lot and labor with a more unreserved devotion for the upbuilding of that only Kingdom which cannot be moved.

Receive these words of instruction and exhortation, which in the fulness of our hearts we send to you, greeting.

"And now, brethren, we commend you to God, and to the word of His grace which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified."

"The God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you."

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen."

GEORGE HOWE,
Moderator.

Macon, Ga., Dec. 19th, 1865.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

The Executive Committee of Domestic Missions respectfully report, that during the ecclesiastical year, commencing May, 1864, and terminating May, 1865, they have prosecuted the work entrusted to their care, with all the energy and wisdom they possessed, and, as they trust, not without tokens of the Divine favor.

Very little was done, or attempted, in the way of promoting evangelical religion in the more destitute and frontier regions of the country, owing to the unsettled state of public affairs, and the want of suitable missionary laborers. Only one missionary was commissioned during that period, and it is not certainly known that he ever entered upon the work assigned him.

The work in the army, to which the attention of the committee was mainly directed, was carried on with systematic efficiency, and perhaps with as important results as those of any previous year. More than one hundred missionary laborers were commissioned during the year, nine-tenths of whom were in active service for longer or shorter periods, and all whom received their support, in part or whole, from the contributions of the churches. What number were in actual service at the time of the surrender of our two main armies, is not certainly known, but perhaps more than fifty. A large proportion of these brethren had been connected with the army for periods varying from two to four years, and performed labors, and endured hardships, which perhaps will never be fully understood in this present life. The churches, to the last, were exceedingly generous in their contributions, and at no time was the work retarded for the want of funds. Thousands of our beloved soldiers were converted through the instrumentality of these labors, some of whom are gone to rest, whilst others have been spared to beautify and uphold the Church of Christ on earth. Whatever disappointment may have been experienced by us as a people, in relation to the establishment of our independence, as a Church we should ever be grateful to Almighty God for the repeated and abundant outpouring of His Holy Spirit upon our armies during the progress of the bloody conflict. That our camps should have been made nurseries of piety, is something not only new and unprecedented in warfare, but may be regarded as an encouraging token of God's purpose to favor and bless our future Zion. If these rich and spiritual fruits are carefully gathered and husbanded for the Master's use, we may soon have occasion to forget our temporal sorrows in the abundance of our spiritual joys.

The failure of the Assembly to meet last May, left the committee without instructions as to their duties in the new state of things brought about by the providence of God. They have regarded themselves, however, as constructively in office, but have been able to accomplish very little from the want of mails and the facilities of railroad travel. These difficulties are now passing away, and the Assembly, in the good providence of God, is met to deliberate on these great matters.

As the clouds that have so long overspread the country are gradually being lifted up, we have revealed to us a work of immense proportions to be done in healing the wounds, restoring the desolations, and building up the broken down walls of Zion, as well as extending her borders to the more remote and frontier regions of the country.

In the judgment of your committee, three departments of missionary labor claim the attention of the Assembly at the present time, viz : 1st. The building up of our crippled and broken down churches. 2d. The extending of the knowledge of the Gospel to the destitute and frontier regions of the country. 3d. Providing religious instruction for the colored people among us.

The first of these is undoubtedly the most urgent, but, it is hoped, will claim the attention of the Assembly only for a limited period. The second is a permanent work, and must come up for consideration from year to year. The third has claims of the most weighty and serious character, and like the second, will come up for consideration as often as the Assembly shall meet. In the present undeveloped state of feeling among the negro population, it is impossible to decide what general course of instruction would be best suited to their circumstances. Perhaps the best course for the Assembly, at its present session, will be to remind the churches under their care of their duty to instruct these people in the way of salvation —leaving it for each church to pursue that course which in its judgment will seem best—and appoint a committee to report to the next Assembly some general plan to be adopted by all our churches. It would be well for that committee to be composed of individuals from the different sections of the country, so that all the varied aspects of the subject may be before their minds in preparing the report.

The restoration of our crippled and broken down churches is undoubtedly the object which claims the immediate and earnest attention of this Assembly. These churches are to be found in every section of our country that has been occupied for any length of time by Northern soldiers, and especially along the broad track of those desolating marches that were made through most of the central Southern States. Wherever the armies have gone, the country has been desolated, the people have been impoverished, and in the great majority of cases, the sanctuaries of the living God have either been entirely destroyed, or so much injured as to be unfit for use. In many places our people are not only without houses in which to worship, but are without ministers to break to them the bread of life. Some of our ablest and most earnest ministers have been compelled to betake themselves to school-keeping, or some other secular employment, in order to provide their families with the means of subsistence. Worse than all, in the very midst of this distress and prostration, an enemy threatens to invade our borders, sow dissensions among our people, and gather our flocks into folds which they have not known. If ever there was occasion for the people of God to rally as one man, and put forth all their energies with united front against those who are seeking to divide and destroy, the present is that occasion. If we would be true to the great Head of the Church, or would be faithful to those spiritual flocks of which He hath given us the care, we must defend them from all these insidious encroachments in whatever name or garb they may come.

No doubt all our churches are suffering, to a greater or less extent, from the effects of the terrible conflict through which we have just passed But some have not suffered to the same extent with others, and such would no doubt be glad to testify their gratitude to God, as well as their love to the brethren, by con-

tributing of their substance to the general welfare of all the suffering churches. May not God have permitted these great calamities to overtake us for the purpose of developing among us that spirit of liberality which distinguished the primitive churches, in like poverty, and which may be the means of uniting us as one common brotherhood for any trials or triumphs He may have in reserve for us ?

What seems especially necessary at the present time, in the judgment of your committee, to rally the whole Southern church, and bring out all her disposable resources, is to bring forward some feasible plan by which their gifts may be brought together and be laid out wisely and judiciously in relieving the distresses of the suffering churches. The committee, therefore, would recommend the appointment of what may be called a *Sustentation Committee*, somewhat after the plan of the Free Church of Scotland, whose duty it shall be to raise and disburse funds in connection with this great object. That committee need consist only of a chairman, a secretary, and one commissioner from each Synod. Let it be the duty of the chairman, or secretary, to occupy some central position in the country, from which he can have easy access to the churches and the commissioners, and, for the time being, have the general direction of affairs. Let it be the duty of the commissioners to canvass their respective Synods, ascertain what churches are needing help, what ones are able to contribute, and do all they can by correspondence and visitation to collect funds for this general object. At the expiration of three months, or as soon after as practicable, the secretary and the commissioners shall meet together, and with all the facts they have gathered, proceed to disburse the funds according to their best judgment. It would be also well for the Assembly to designate a day when collections should be taken up in all the churches for this object. It is not proposed that the commissioners should receive any compensation for their services further than have their traveling expenses paid. It is confidently believed, that there are brethren in all our Synods who, if called by the Assembly to this work, would cheerfully devote three months to this purpose without any pay, further than the satisfaction of knowing that they are engaged in a work of mercy.

It is confidently believed, also, that by this plan, all our crippled churches may be placed on their feet, at least so far as the support of their pastors is concerned, before the meeting of the next Assembly. The question of aiding these churches in rebuilding their houses of worship had better be deferred until that time. The Assembly will then be in possession of facts that will enable them to act wisely and efficiently in relation to whatever course it may then be thought best to pursue.

If objection is felt to the multiplication of agencies under the direction of the Assembly, then the same object may be attained simply by uniting the commissioners above mentioned to the Ex-

ecutive Committee of Domestic Missions, and giving them the power of committeemen, so far as this particular enterprise is concerned.

All of which is respectfully submitted, on behalf of the committee.

J. LEIGHTON WILSON,
Secretary.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, in account with James Woodrow, Treasurer of Domestic Missions.

DR.		CR.	
To cash paid Missionaries and Chaplains	$50,627 67	By balance in Treasury, May 1, 1864	$33,464 04
To salaries of Officers	5,000 00	By donations from Churches, etc., from May 1, 1864, to May 1, 1865	61,756 07
To traveling expenses of Secretary	312 50	By interest on Bonds, &c.	1,433 75
To office expenses	428 96		
To taxes on old currency, express freights, &c.	5,262 77		
To balance in Treasury, May 1, 1865	35,021 96		
	$96,653 86		$96,653 86

The undersigned have carefully examined the accounts of Prof. James Woodrow, as Treasurer of Domestic Missions, and the corresponding vouchers and find them strictly correct.

JOSEPH LECONTE, } Auditing
J. A. CRAWFORD, } Committee.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1865.

The whole of the balance due on this account is in the form of Confederate money.

JOSEPH LECONTE, } Auditing
J. A. CRAWFORD, } Committee.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Executive Committee of Foreign Missions, in presenting their fourth annual report, have to lament that their labors are still restricted to a narrow sphere, and even in relation to this they cannot render a very satisfactory account, owing to their very restricted intercourse with the missionaries during the last eighteen months. No letters at all have been received from Southern missionaries laboring in foreign lands; and none from missionary brethren in the Indian country, except such as have been brought by casual travelers from that region. One was received from the venerable Dr. Kingsbury, of June last, in which it was stated that the missionary work was going on as usual, and the inquiry was made, whether, in the prostrated condition of the country, any further pecuniary aid could be expected from the Southern churches. The Executive Committee responded by forwarding $1,300 to New Orleans, of funds that were providentially on hand, for their use. At the same time, they were assured that as soon as our religious newspapers and railroads were established, their wants would be brought to the notice of the churches. That pledge as yet has only been partially redeemed.

More recently fuller communications have been received from the missionaries, several of whom were at Little Rock, in attendance upon the Synod of Arkansas, to which they belong, and which met there in October last. There was some sickness among the missionaries at that time, and a good deal of distress among the Indians, owing to desolations occasioned by the war and misunderstanding with the government in the settlement of their affairs. The missionaries seemed to be deeply impressed with the importance and the duty of continuing their labors among the people, but could not do so unless sustained by help from abroad. According to their estimates, it will require about $6,000 for their support. This sum, in former times, could easily have been raised, and the committee are of the opinion that it can be done the coming year, unless there is more distress and prostration in general affairs than is hoped will be the case. What changes are to be made in the general condition of the Indian country cannot be foreseen, and therefore it is impossible to determine what plan of missionary operation should be adopted for that field at the present time. It would seem to be the duty of the Church to go forward on the same general

plan heretofore pursued, committing the whole to the great Head of the Church, and wait for clearer light to guide us in the future.

But, whatever course may be adopted in relation to this particular matter, the committee earnestly recommend the continuance of your Foreign Missionary organization. Much may be done, even in our crippled condition, to carry on this great work. We can scarcely set up a claim to be regarded as a true branch of the Church of Christ, or take an honorable place in the sisterhood of evangelical churches, unless we keep this object constantly and distinctly before our minds.

It should ever be made the controlling principle of all our movements. The command to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, is in fact the only commission which the Lord Jesus has given to his Church on earth : and any branch of that Church that disregards this command, imperils its own spiritual life.

In setting out in this great work, we shall find that other branches of the Church are greatly in the advance of us. Many of them have made progress in the establishment of Christian churches among the heathen, in the acquisition of their languages and the translation of the Word of God into those languages, in the establishment of Christian institutions, and the training of young men in those institutions to preach the Gospel, which we may not attain for a half century. But what of that ? If it is not too late for us to commence our career as a separate and independent Church, surely it is not too late to commence the faithful discharge of those functions which are the inseparable attributes of every true Church of Christ. The same providence which forced us to take one step, requires us to take the other. That we are few and feeble, is no sufficient reason for withholding our hands from the work. With God there is no constraint to work by few or many. In the course of His providence, many that are first shall be last, and the last the first. He may, in the exercise of His sovereign pleasure, crown our feeble efforts with his richest blessings, and hasten the time when our Southern Zion shall occupy a prominent and leading position in the prosecution of this great undertaking.

We are not to suppose, for one moment, that the great work of evangelizing the heathen nations of the earth is drawing to a close. All that has already been achieved by missionary effort, important as those achievements are, can scarcely admit of comparison with what remains to be done. As yet, only the outposts of the kingdom of darkness have been assailed. The surface of heathendom has scarcely been

ruffled. If thousands and hundreds of thousands of benighted heathen men have been made to rejoice in the light of the Gospel, millions and hundreds of millions remain in all the darkness of unmitigated paganism. Not to make particular mention of the millions in Europe and South America who are enveloped in papal darkness, the great pagan nations of Africa, India, China, Northern Asia and Japan, have as yet scarcely felt the first glow of that Christian love that is to transform their whole moral character, or caught the first gleam of that glorious Gospel day that is to chase away all their darkness. Your missionaries, in the inscrutable providence of God, may have reserved for them the great honor of being the first to carry the light of the Gospel into the deepest recesses of this darkness; and though last in the field, may be the first in the rich harvest that is to be reaped by the combined labors of the whole Church.

Before entering largely upon this undertaking, however, we have an important work of preparation to be done at home. Our people, it is true, are not strangers to the work of Foreign Missions. In former years they have borne an honorable share in carrying it on. They have contributed of their substance to its support; they have prayed earnestly for its success; and, in many cases, they have cheerfully given up their sons and daughters to labor in it. But, after all, Southern Christians have only been co-operators in the work. The chief agency and chief responsibility have heretofore been with the Northern Church, by whom we are now excluded from even an honorable co-operation. If, therefore, we would continue to have a share in it, we must carry on the independent work which has already been commenced, the chief responsibility of which, under God, must rest upon our own shoulders. Hereafter, our contributions, our prayers, and the consecration of our children, must be made under a more direct sense of our responsibility to the great Head of the Church. Our people must be made familiar with this great idea, and they must be trained to all that benevolence, self-denial, energy and self-reliance which is necessary for the successful prosecution of so great a work. The rising generation must be made to appreciate the greatness of the cause, and that no sublimer object can possibly challenge their personal devotement. The children and youths in our sabbath schools and in our seminaries of learning, must be instructed, not only in relation to the general claims of this cause, but they must be made familiar with the actual facts and results that attend the prosecution of it by other branches of the Church. But all this can be accomplished only by an agency

appointed by the Church for this express purpose. Besides which, we know not how soon we may be called, in the providence of God, to take an active part in the prosecution of it. It is believed that there are young men in the Church, at the present time, who are looking forward to engaging in it, and are only waiting for the Church to bid them go forward. Let us then be prepared for any duty to which the great Head of the Church may call us, feeling assured that He will give us grace and necessary resources to accomplish any task He may assign us.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
On behalf of the Executive Committee.

J. LEIGHTON WILSON,
Secretary.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, in account with James Woodrow, Treasurer for Foreign Missions.

DR.		CR.	
To cash paid Missionaries to Indians	$7,266 40	By balance in Treasury, May 1, 1864	$35,656 46
To salaries of Officers	3,000 00	By donations from Churches, etc., from May 1, 1864, to May 1, 1865	10,371 43
To office expenses	780 50		
To taxes on currency, discount, &c	827 09		
To balance on hand in Treasury, May 1, 1865	34,153 90		
	$46,027 89		$46,027 89

The undersigned have carefully examined the accounts of Prof. James Woodrow, as Treasurer of Foreign Missions, and the corresponding vouchers, and find them strictly correct.

JOSEPH LECONTE, } Auditing
J. A. CRAWFORD, } Committee.

Columbia, S. C., May 1, 1865.

The whole of the balance due on this account, is in the form of Confederate money, with the exception of $2,298 37 in gold—now on deposit in the London Joint Stock Bank.

JOSEPH LECONTE, } Auditing
J. A. CRAWFORD, } Committee.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION.

The Committee of Publication, in presenting to the General Assembly the report here submitted, have to regret that, under existing circumstances, the materials for preparing it were so defective. By the fire which on the 3d of April last laid in ashes so much of the city of Richmond, our office, with all its contents, was entirely consumed. Not even the office books were saved, from which various items of interest might have been embodied in this report. Your Secretary, the Rev. Dr. Leyburn, finding his work suspended for the time, and no longer the means from it of a pecuniary support, withdrew to another part of the country. In the absence, therefore, of the usual sources of information, nothing definite can be produced in the document here offered. It may, however, be stated, in general, that the operations of the committee continued to be prosecuted with increasing energy and success.

The report of the Treasurer, herewith submitted, shows that the whole amount of receipts for the year ending March 31, 1865, was $93,555 42, and the expenditures $69,124 72, leaving a balance of $14,430 71, in Confederate money, the receipts and vouchers for which were consumed in the bank where they were deposited.

A very large amount of reading matter, consisting of Bibles, New Testaments, and other religious books and tracts obtained from England, as well as valuable tracts of our own publication, was put into circulation, most of it in the Confederate army. Of the "Soldiers' Visitor" a large edition continued to be published, and the demand for it, as well as for all other gospel truth we could supply, showed how eager were our soldiers for whatever would teach them the way of salvation, and strengthen them in the trials through which they were passing.

The "Children's Friend" was kept alive, but with an issue greatly diminished. Its highest circulation (in the Spring of 1863) was about twelve thousand; at the time our operations were suspended, it was only about three thousand. This was owing, in a large degree, to the disturbed state of the country, and to the very imperfect facilities for its distribution through the mails.

In reviewing our operations for a period of about three years, we find cause for both humiliation and gratitude. Our Church has certainly not rendered to the Lord according

to all His benefits. To reflect how much more might have been accomplished had we possessed more ample means, and been moved by a supreme consecration to God, should fill us with sorrow. When, on the other hand, we bring to view the undoubted fact that, through the agency of the committee, a great multitude have been brought nearer to the Saviour, we find cause to bless His holy name.

The past, with its scenes of strife and bloodshed, its convulsions and changes, its public calamities, its private sorrows and desolations, has now vanished beyond our reach, and gone to make its record for history and for the final judgment. Praying to be instructed by its awful voice, we find ourselves called now to reach forth unto the things which are before.

The question presents itself, how can we best supply our people with religious literature under the circumstances in which we are now placed? After much deliberation, the committee would recommend to the attention of the General Assembly a scheme of which the following is the outline:

The Committee of Publication shall be charged with the duty of most carefully selecting from every available quarter, whether in Europe or America, the very best tracts and books suited for Sabbath schools, and other religious reading. Let a descriptive catalogue of these publications be prepared and distributed among our churches. From this list let them make selections, and send orders accordingly. The proceeds of sales to be re-invested. A small profit to be laid upon purchases—which would be at wholesale—so as to cover expenses. Annual collections to be taken in our churches, as heretofore, from which donations can be made to the destitute, and for publishing such books and tracts, original and selected, as may be specially demanded.

The necessity and usefulness of some plan of this kind, and also its practicability, need not be here presented, especially as the General Assembly has already given the scheme, in its essential parts, a hearty approval. See minutes for 1863.

Should it still thus receive the sanction of the Church, it will be necessary for the General Assembly to provide for the details required to carry it into practical effect.

The Synod of Virginia having, at its last meeting, requested the committee to take immediate steps to meet the pressing wants of its churches for Sabbath School books, and having raised on the spot $1,000 for defraying the expenses connected with a beginning of the work, we are gratified to report that some valuable results have been already reached. An agent was sent, as soon as practicable, to visit various houses of publication in the Northern cities, and make such selections

as were judged suitable. His report is herewith submitted for inspection. It will show that he was very courteously received, and that very generous terms were offered in many cases.

To the house of Robert Carter & Son, of New York, we are indebted for a reduction of one-half the usual price upon all books which our agent selected as specimens from their catalogue. The Presbyterian Board of Publication in Philadelphia were so kind as to present to us all the books selected for the same purpose from their large and valuable list.

Your committee cannot doubt that, should some scheme of this kind be entered upon and prosecuted with energy, it will meet the hearty approbation of our people, and grow into wide usefulness in the diffusion of the truth as it is in Jesus.

The publication of the "Children's Friend" has not been resumed, for two reasons. One is that the means of circulating it over the country have been too limited. This hindrance, it is expected, will soon be removed by the re-establishment of the mails and postoffices throughout the land. Another serious difficulty arises from the limited circulation which the paper had when suspended, and the apprehension that it is not practicable to sustain a paper of this kind by our denomination alone. Without entering into this subject more minutely, the committee would refer the Assembly to such of its members as may be in attendance upon its approaching sessions, for any explanations that may be needed. A thoroughly good paper for the children of the Church is an enterprise of unspeakable importance, and the best way, all things considered, for securing such an agency for those committed to our care, merits the most careful consideration of her highest judicatory.

Undismayed by any trials and toils through which we may be called to pass; cheerfully trusting in the merciful and almighty guidance and protection of Him who was with His Church in the wilderness, we desire to go forth sowing the precious seed by the side of all waters, assured of the joyful harvest in God's own good time, and to the praise of the glory of His grace.

T. V. MOORE,
President.

WILLIAM BROWN, *Sec'y. Pro Tem.*
Richmond, Dec. 6th, 1865.

STATEMENT OF THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT OF PUBLICATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1865.

RECEIPTS.

By balance on hand 1st April, 1864		$27,001 61
By contributions to publication	$54,166 83	
By contributions to "Soldiers' Visitor"	1,091 70	
By subscriptions to "Children's Friend"	5,281 18	
By sales at Depository	5,810 21	
By profit on Confederate Bonds	148 89	
		66,498 81
By remittances for "Philadelphia Board"		55 00
		$93,555 42

DISBURSEMENTS.

To cost of paper	$39,277 10	
To composition, press work and binding	19,867 42	
To officers' salaries	13,700 00	
To incidental expenses	5,689 69	
To office furniture	323 00	
To type and fixtures	267 50	
To balance on hand in bonds and notes of Confederate States	14,430 71	
		$93,555 42

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF EDUCATION.

The Committee of Education submit the following report:

Your committee have had no beneficiaries receiving aid since the last report.

The statement of the Treasurer, accompanying this report, will show that the contributions have been $2,552 80, which, together with a balance on hand March 31, 1865, makes the whole amount in his hands in Confederate money, (now worthless) to be $7,802 41.

All that the committee deem it necessary to say farther, is that during the war this part of our benevolent operations was suspended. Nearly all of our young men receiving aid were called into the army, or were, by causes connected with the war, interrupted in their studies.

In the present changed condition of affairs, this great work is opened to us with new interest, not only because of the increasing need of Ministers of the Gospel to enter upon the labors of our vast field, but also because, for reasons well known, the means of those seeking the holy office are generally so greatly diminished.

This subject, in all the magnitude of its interests, is, under God, in the hands of our General Assembly, for such advice

and control as, in their wisdom, may be judged best in the circumstances.

T. V. MOORE,
President.

WILLIAM BROWN, *Sec'y Pro Tem.*

Statement of the Treasurer's account of Education for the year ending 31st March, 1865.

By balance on hand 1st April, 1864		$5,249 61
By contributions to Education		2,552 80
To balance on hand in Confederate States bonds and notes	$7,802 51	$7,802 41

STATEMENT SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT COLUMBIA. FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in session at Macon, Georgia :

As Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, now under the care of the General Assembly, I beg leave to submit this brief statement with the view of bringing the Seminary to your attention.

Owing to the derangement of all business, and the breaking down of all public transportation, consequent upon the fall of the Confederate Government, no meeting of the Board of Directors of the Seminary has been held during the present year, and no official report can be made.

The undersigned, deeming it matter of great importance that the General Assembly should have before it the subject matter of the Seminary, has thought it not improper to submit this statement with the reports of the Treasurer and Faculty, for your consideration.

The report of the Treasurer containing his account of receipts and expenditures up to the first of May last, the end of the fiscal year, is complete, and believed to be correct. His letter, sent in with the report, shows the loss to the Seminary, by the overthrow of the Southern Government, to be very large. Of the investments, which amounted at the last annual report to over two hundred and sixty thousand dollars, he thinks now that not more than sixty-nine thousand dollars can be regarded as solvent. This heavy loss, it is feared, will seriously embarrass the General Assembly in its expectations

as to the operations of the Seminary. We have, however, abundant cause to be thankful that the buildings and Library of the Seminary have been saved.

Believing that it is very important that the Seminary should still be kept open, for the reception and instruction of candidates for the ministry, the Faculty, with commendable zeal, have consented to continue their labors in the Seminary. It is hoped that some arrangement will be made for their support at least.

For the particulars, as to the investments, you are referred to the Appendix of the Minutes of the General Assembly of 1864.

The Professorship of Didactic and Polemic Theology is vacant.

The report of the Faculty, herewith submitted, will give you the state of the Seminary and its prospects.

Hoping that this school of the prophets may survive the shock that it has received, and that it may soon be restored to its former power and usefulness,

I am, respectfully, yours,

THOS. C. PERRIN,
Chairman.

REPORT OF THE FACULTY OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT COLUMBIA.

The Faculty of the Theological Seminary at Columbia, under the care of the General Assembly, in making their annual report, have to lament over the disasters which have befallen this beloved institution, in connection with the general ruin which surrounds us on every side. During the occupation of Columbia by the forces of General Sherman, when he laid two-thirds of the city in ashes, the buildings of the Seminary were saved from conflagration, through the good providence of God, by the vigilance, intercessions and representations, chiefly, of the refugee families which had sought shelter within them. The valuable Library is intact, with the exception of some volumes which were loaned out, and perished in the dwellings of those who had them in possession. The fences, too, were in great part destroyed, and some of the furniture has disappeared, but otherwise the premises have sustained no permanent injury. The funds of the institution, however, which, according to the tabular statement in the Appendix to your last Minutes, amounted to $270,224, have been in a

good measure lost in the general crash and ruin of all investments. Only one item of the whole, amounting to less than $3,000, yields any immediate cash income. For a particular statement of the funded condition of the Seminary, we must refer you to the report of the Treasurer and Board of Directors. Under these circumstances, it has been a question among those most immediately connected with the institution, whether the Seminary should temporaribly suspend its operations, or be continued without interruption. We have regarded it worthy of the utmost efforts of the Church to sustain it. The number of students educated within its walls, is 364, of whom 67 have departed this life. Of the remainder, 83 are laboring in South Carolina, 38 in Georgia, 28 in Alabama, 35 in North Carolina, 28 in Mississippi, 8 in Tennessee, 5 in Louisiana, 6 in Arkansas, 6 in Virginia, 6 in Florida, 4 in Kentucky. It has its representatives too in New York, Pennsylvana, New Jersey, Illinois, California, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Texas, Minnesota, Oregon, Missouri, Ohio, India and China, and has had its missionaries in the Indian Territory and Western Africa. An institution yielding such fruits should not be abandoned, and its temporary suspension would be a great evil, both because the attention of students would be diverted from it, and the affection of the churches would become cooled towards it. The Professors feel it their duty, therefore, to re-open the Seminary to such students as may resort to it, and to appeal to the generosity of the Church to sustain it by their contributions, as was done before the invested foundations were established. As the scholarships for the support of beneficiary students have shared the same fate with other funds, provision should be made also for them. The Synod of South Carolina has already initiated a system by which it is hoped contributions in money, clothing, and provisions may be obtained, and, if other Synods, Presbyteries and Churches, will follow this example, the Seminary may still be carried forward in these times of public and private calamity.

There are two professorships vacant in the Faculty: that of Pastoral Theology and Sacred Rhetoric, formerly occupied by the Rev. Dr. Leland, now Professor Emeritus, and the chair of Didactic and Polemic Theology, occupied provisionally by Rev. Dr. Palmer, whose time of office has expired, and who has resumed his post as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in New Orleans. The duties of these departments of instruction will be assumed, as far as practicable, by the existing Faculty, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution. But this arrangement cannot long continue.

The prosperity of the Seminary demands that these chairs be filled by judicious and able divines, who can bestow upon them their entire labors. There have been but three students connected with the Seminary the last year, and its exercises were wholly suspended after the burning of Columbia by the Federal army on the 17th of February last.

In behalf of the Faculty.

GEORGE HOWE,
Chairman.

Theological Seminary, Columbia, Dec. 4, 1865.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT COLUMBIA.

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia,—South Carolina Professorship.

1865.	Dr.	Cr.
To balance due May 2d, 1864	$620 11	
To interest on 2 Confederate Registered Bonds	16 00	
To interest on $10,300 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	721 00	
To interest on $2,100 8 per cent Confederate Bonds	168 00	
To dividends on 80 shares Bank Charleston	960 00	
To dividends on 9 shares Bank of Charleston (new stock)	54 00	
To dividends on 26 shares Farmers' & Exchange Bank, Charleston	52 00	
To dividends on 100 shares Columbia Bridge	2,600 00	
To dividends on 202 shares Commercial Bank, Columbia	404 00	
To dividends on 52 shares Exchange Bank, Columbia	104 00	
	$5,099 11	
To balance due Treasurer this year	900 89	
	$6,000 00	
By Dr. Leland's salary to 1st April, 1865		$3,000 00
By Treasurer's salary to 1st April, 1865		3,000 00
		$6,000 00

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Georgia Professorship.

To interest on $11,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	$770 00	
To Geo. M. Thew, agent, (interest)	2,403 65	
	$3,173 65	
By Dr. Howe's salary to 1st April, 1865		$3,000 00
By balance in hands of Treasurer		173 65
		$3,173 65

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Perkins Professorship.

To interest on $10,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	$700 00	
To balance due Treasurer	2,821 40	
	$3,521 40	
By balance due Treasurer last year		$491 40
By Dr. Woodrow's salary to 1st April, 1865		3,000 00
By Dr. Woodrow recording deeds, &c.,		30 00
		$3,521 40

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Third Professorship.

To interest on $6,500 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	$455 00	
To interest on John and Harriet Inglis' Bond of $6,000	420 00	
To dividends on 256 shares Bank of Camden	1,280 00	
To dividends on 32 shares Bank of Charleston	192 00	
To dividends on 297 shares Commercial Bank of Columbia	594 00	
To balance due Treasurer	59 00	
	$3,000 00	
By Dr. Adger's salary to 1st April		$3,000 00

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Fourth Professorship.

1865.	Dr.	Cr.
To interest on $7,500 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	$525 00	
To interest on $1,000 8 per cent Confederate Bonds	80 00	
To dividends on 32 shares Bank of Georgetown	64 00	
To dividends on 254 shares Farmers' & Exchange Bank, Charleston	508 00	
To dividends on 15 shares Washington and N. O. Telegraph Comp'y	45 00	
To dividends on 213 shares People's Bank	426 00	
	$1,648 00	
To balance due Treasurer	3,160 44	
	$4,808 44	
By balance due Treasurer last year		$1,808 44
By Dr. Palmer's salary to 1st April, 1865		3,000 00
		$4,808 44

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Library Fund.

To balance in hands of Treasurer last year	$238 12
To interest on $2,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds this year	140 00
	$378 12

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Perkins Fund for Disabled Ministers and their Families.

To balance in hands of Treasurer last year	$805 00
To interest on $10,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	700 00
	$1,505 00

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia—Perkins Fund for Educating Pious Young Men for the Ministry.

To balance in hands of Treasurer last year	$569 70
To interest on $10,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	700 00
	$1,269 70

CONTINGENT FUND.

To cash received from Dr. Howe, room rent	$257 40	
To interest on $7,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	490 00	
To interest on $4,000 8 per cent Confederate Bonds	320 00	
	$1,067,40	
By Revs. S. H. Hay, $15, E. P. Palmer $36		$51 00
By Revs. John Douglas $20, R. K. Porter $22		42 00
By Dr. J. R. Wilson		30 00
By half quire paper for Directors and Secretary		1 50
By repairs on buildings paid Dr. Woodrow		111 45
By printing 500 copies of the Constitution		97 00
By insurance on Buildings and Library		450 00
By Treasurer's expenses		110 00
By balance in hands of Treasurer		174 45
		$1,067 40

Andrew Crawford, Treasurer, in account with the Education Committee of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia.

1865.	Dr.	Cr.
To balance due by Treasurer last year, per account	$166 09	
To interest on $8,000 7 per cent Confederate Bonds	560 00	
To interest on $250 8 per cent Confederate Bonds	20 00	
To interest on 2 7-30 Treasury Notes	29 20	
To dividends on 44 shares Union Bank, Congregational and Presbyterian	351 34	
To dividends on 20 shares Farmers' & Exchange Bank, Charleston	40 00	
To dividends on 20 shares So. Ca. Railroad Bank and 20 shares new Fabien scholarship	515 00	
To dividends on 50 shares Bank of South Carolina, Lanneau scholarship	139 75	
To dividends on 100 shares People's Bank, Telfair Timothy scholarship	200 00	
To dividends on 92 shares Commercial Bank, Ellison scholarship	184 00	
To James T. Latta, annual donation	200 00	
	$2,405 38	
By Arbuthnot, Jacobs, Gaston and Chandler, for Sustentation		$140 00
By balance in hands of Treasurer in Confederate currency		2,265 38
		$2,405 38

The balance due Treasurer from the within balance, is $1,175 43 in Confederate currency.

No change has been made in the investments since last year. See minutes of the General Assembly.

ANDREW CRAWFORD, *Treasurer.*

Columbia, S. C., May 1st, 1865.

REPORT OF THE FACULTY OF UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

To the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Southern States:

Rev. and Dear Sir:—Owing to the state of the country, the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary held no meeting during the past year; consequently, there will be no report from that body to the General Assembly.

The Faculty of the Seminary conceive that they will be rendering an acceptable service to the Assembly, and a useful one to the Seminary, by presenting a brief statement of the condition and prospects of the institution. During the session closing on the 2d Monday of May last, there was only one student, an exempt from military service for physical infirmity, attending the instructions of the Seminary. About the close of the session, one who had been in service, a resident of the vicinity, and former student, Mr. P. P. Flournoy, resumed his studies, which he continued to prosecute till this session, when he was joined by seven others of the former students: Messrs. Barnett, Brown, Bailey, Hitner, Greenlee, M'Intyre, and Martin. Besides these, the following young gentlemen have matriculated this session:

Mr. Geo. L. Leyburn, graduate of Washington College, Va., and licentiate of Roanoke Presbytery.

Mr. Francis M'F. Swoope, member of Hebron Church, Lexington Presbytery, and student of the University of Virginia.

Mr. Edward Lane, member of the Second Church, Richmond, and student of Oglethorpe University, Geo.

Mr. John Silas Young, member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, Tenn., and graduate of Cumberland University.

Mr. Matthew Hale Houston, member of the Waynesboro' Church in Lexington Presbytery, and graduate of Washington College, Va.

Mr. William U. Murkland, member of the College Church, in West Hanover Presbytery, and graduate of Hampden Sidney College, Va.

Mr. Robert H. Nall, candidate of the Presbytery of East Alabama, and graduate of Oglethorpe University, Geo.

During the four years, in the generally thinly occupied condition of the building, and the want of means for proper repairs, by the ordinary course of decay in such circumstances,

both the buildings and enclosures have become considerably dilapidated. Lawless persons have taken advantage of the times to depredate on the contents of the rooms, to some extent, and some articles of furniture have suffered for want of the attention which constant use supplies. The Library is in good condition, though a few books have been misplaced, probably through the negligence of persons who had the use of them sometimes without the Librarian's knowledge.

Until last July, the funds of the institution continued to yield the usual income, and they had considerably increased nominally, though the depreciation of the currency of the country greatly reduced their real value. By the generosity of the friends of the Seminary, by other than professional labors, and by a very stringent economy, the professors continued at their posts with the single exception that one of their number was employed for some months in the army as a a chaplain or an officer, with the approval of the Board. In July, however, there was no income from the funds. So much of the funds of the institution as was invested in Bank stocks is totally lost; the amount is from sixteen to twenty thousand dollars. The remaining funds, amounting, to the best of our knowledge, to ninety or one hundred thousand dollars, consist of State and other securities, which may ultimately be available as sources of income. For the present, and we know not how much longer, the institution has not a cent of income from any source. During the last summer, some benevolent persons of the Presbyterian churches in Baltimore, understanding the straightened condition of the Seminary, and the prospective difficulty of keeping it open, conceived the idea of offering aid. They made contributions in money and goods, and sent them by one of their number, who, on ascertaining more fully the condition of the institution, proposed that one of the professors should visit Baltimore to make further collections for the temporary support of the Seminary. This was done. On reaching Baltimore, he was most cordially welcomed by those whose friendly and sympathizing sentiments for Southern people, had, for years, endeared them to thousands of sufferers by wounds and disease and imprisonment. He applied to no others. After spending two weeks in Baltimore, he was encouraged to extend his visit to New York. After spending about three weeks in all, in the prosecution of his object, it was left for farther effort in the hands of a most efficient and zealous clergyman of Baltimore. It has been since ascertained that six thousand dollars have been raised, nearly two-thirds of which have been paid. Part of these funds are to be applied for necessary repairs, and part for the aid of indigent

students. Doubtless, but for pecuniary difficulties, more of them would now be at the Seminary. It is important they should be. Having lost their means, often injured their health, and expended four years in military service, they have not the funds for supporting themselves while studying, and have not the time, even if the few and thronged avenues for gain afforded the opportunity for engaging in remunerative labors.

Under these circumstances, the Faculty recommended to the Synod of Virginia that measures should be promptly adopted, for securing such aid that no student need hesitate in pursuing his theological studies. They felt that this was not only an act of justice to these young men, but one of the soundest policy on the part of the Church. There may be, for reasons of temporary force, and in special localities, a redundancy of ministers, but a few years of the ordinary ravages of death, and of the natural increase of population, not to mention what may accrue by immigration, will effect great changes in the aspect of the Church. It is therefore believed that prompt and zealous efforts should be made to sustain the means for furnishing our people increasing numbers of able and faithful ministers of the gospel. In compliance with these views, the Synod of Virginia adopted means for raising contributions for the support of both professors and students; and directed a member of the Faculty to resume the agency for the collection of funds in Baltimore and at other points North, among persons favorable to Southern interests, both for temporary sustentation and for replacing the lost endowment. This has been begun with encouraging prospects of success. These plans having been reported to the Synod of North Carolina, were also heartily approved by that body.

The undersigned beg leave to conclude this report by an earnest appeal, through the Assembly, to the churches and the people for their renewed and fervent prayers for the school of the prophets over which the Head of the Church has called them to preside.

[Signed] SAMUEL B. WILSON,
B. M. SMITH,
THOMAS E. PECK,
R. L. DABNEY,
Faculty of Union Seminary.

Union Theo. Sem., Prince Edward co., Va., Dec. 5, 1865.

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF

MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES.

———:o:———

Adams, Wm. H., Eufaula, Ala.
Adger, D. D., J. B., Columbia, S. C.
Alexander, Henry C., Charlotte C. H., Va.
Alexander, James C., Greenesboro', N. C.
Alexander, J. C., Milton, Tenn.
Alexander, J. H. Kosciusko, Miss.
Alexander, J. H., Quitman, Ga.
Alexander, S. C., White Hall, N. C.
Alexander, S. C., Black River Chapel, N. C.
Alexander, Thomas, Cotton Gin, Texas.
Anderson, E., Summerfield, Ala.
Anderson, John, Jacksonport, Miss.
Anderson, J., Clarkesville, Texas.
Anderson, J. Monroe, Yorkville, S. C.
Anderson, Robt. C., Martinsville, Va.
Anderson, Robt. B., Yorkville, S. C.
Anderson, Robert N., Cairo, Va.
Anderson, W. A., Newbern, Tenn.
Arbuthnot, J. S.
Armistead, D. D., Jesse S., Farmville, Va.
Armistead, C. J.
Armstrong, D. D., G. D., Norfolk, Va.
Atkinson, C. M., Canton, Miss.
Atkinson, Joseph M., Raleigh, N. C.
Atkinson, D. D., J. M. P. Hampden Sidney, Va.
Axson, D. D., I. S. K., Savannah, Ga.
Axson, Samuel E., Rome, Ga.

Backman, N., Kingsport, Tenn.
Bailey, J. S., McConnellsville, S. C.
Bain, John R., Nashville, Tenn.
Baird, D. D., E. T., Richmond, Va.
Baird, James R., Yorkville, S. C.
Baird, Washington.
Baker, Archibald, Madison, Fla.
Baker, C. A., Louisville, Ala.
Baker, D. S., Port Gibson, Miss.
Baker, John F., Holcombe's Rock, Va.
Baker, John W., Augusta, Ga.
Baker, R. M., Buena Vista, Ga.
Baker, William E., Staunton, Va.
Baker, William M.
Baleh, R. T., Minden, La.
Balentine, H., Boggy Depot, C. N., Ark.
Banks, Alexander R., Tulip, Ark.
Banks, H. H., Hazlewood, S. C.
Banks, William, Hazlewood, S. C.
Bard, Sam'l, Monroe, La.
Bardwell, J., Shuqualak, Miss.
Barkley, Andrew H., Crawfordsville, Miss.
Barr, J. Calvin, Lewisburg, Va.
Barr, James S., Fancy Hill, N. C.
Bartlett, J. L., Sumter, S. C.
Bartlette, W. F. V., Natchez, Miss.
Beach, Charles, Charlottesville, Va.
Beall, B. L., Charlotte, N. C.
Beattie, Alexander, Arkadelphia, Ark.
Beattie, James, New Orleans, La.
Bell, John, Greenville, Tenn.
Bell, Robert, Erata, Miss.
Bell, Robert S., Washington, Va.
Bell, T. D., Harrisonburg, Va.
Beman, D. D., C. P., Mount Zion, Ga.
Benton, Thomas H., Skullyville, Ark.
Berry, Robert T.
Bertron, Samuel R., Port Gibson, Miss.
Billings, Silas, Duffield's, Va.
Bingham, Sam'l J., Gainesville Junction, Miss.
Bittenger, E. C.
Black, Duncan B., Burgaw, N. C.
Blackburn, John N., Boston, Tenn.
Blackburn, J. N., Camp Creek, Tenn.
Blain, John S., Deerfield, Va.
Blain, Samuel W., Greenwood Depot, Va.
Blair, Alexander A.
Blair, B. B.
Blair, William C., Goliad, Texas.
Blanton, Lindsay H., Salem, Va.
Bocock, D. D., John H., Halifax C. H., Va.
Boggs, D. C., Winnsboro', S. C.
Boggs, G. W., Camden, Ala.
Boggs, George W., Winnsboro', S. C.
Boggs, W. E., Winnsboro', S. C.
Boone, Joseph, Round Top, Texas.
Boozer, John I., Pine Bluff, Ark.
Boude, Henry B., Forsyth, Ga.
Bowden, Nathan T., Powelton, N. C.
Bowman, D. D., Francis, Farmville, Va.
Bowman, F. H., Mount Sidney, Va.
Bowman, J. Rice, Buckingham C. H., Va.
Boyd, C. L. R., Cross Keys, Ala.
Boyd, T. M.
Brackett, G. R., Rowan Mills, N. C.
Bradley, Robert, Kingstree, S. C.
Bradshaw, James N., Chattanooga, Tenn.
Bradshaw, T. R., Sweetwater, Tenn.
Brearley, H. M., Clio, S. C.
Brearly, William, Darlington, S. C.
Briscoe, John P., Blountville, Tenn.
Bright, J. E., Minden, La.
Brooks, W. C.
Brown, Henry, Richmond, Va.
Brown, H. C.
Brown, Hugh A., Mossing Ford, Va.
Brown, J. D. A., Mars' Bluff, S. C.
Brown, John Calvin, Frankfort, West Va.
Brown, Joseph, Amelia C. H., Va.
Brown, Lee C., Hillsville, Va.
Brown, Samuel, Lexington, Va.
Brown, S. S., Shongalo, Miss.

Brown, Thomas, Abingdon, Va.
Brown, Thomas, Philadelphia, Tenn.
Brown, D. D., William, Richmond, Va.
Brown, R., Spring Place, Ga.
Buist, E. H., Newberry, S. C.
Buist, D. D., Edward T., Greenville, S. C.
Bunting, R. F., Nashville, Tenn.
Burgett, J. R., Mobile, Ala.
Burkhead, J. D. W., Lowndesville, S. C.
Burwell, Robert, Charlotte, N. C.
Butler, G. W., Skipperville, Ala.
Buttolph, D. L., Riceboro', Ga.
Byers, R. H., Waverly, Texas.
Byington, Cyrus, Eagle Town, C. N., Ark.

Caldwell, A. H., Sardis, Miss.
Caldwell, C. K., Pittsboro', N. C.
Caldwell, George A., Athens, Ga.
Caldwell, J. M. M., Statesville, N. C.
Caldwell, John M., Rockford, Tenn.
Caldwell, O. B.
Caldwell, Robert, Pulaski, Tenn.
Caldwell, R. H., Query's Turn-Out, N. C.
Caldwell, W. E., Elkton, Tenn.
Calhoun, N. W., Harrisonburg, Va.
Calhoun, P., New Orleans, La.
Calvin, Joseph H., Oakland College, Miss.
Campbell, A. D., Clayton, Ala.
Campbell, Duncan A., Brandon, Miss.
Campbell, E. S., Humboldt, Tenn.
Campbell, R. B., Canton, Miss.
Campbell, S. B., Henderson's Mills, Tenn.
Campbell, William A., Powhatan C. H., Va.
Campbell, Wm. G., Staunton, Va.
Carlile, William, Anderson C. H., S. C.
Carothers, J. N., Houston, Miss.
Carothers, W. W., Yorkville, S. C.
Carrington, Alexander B., Abingdon, Va.
Carroll, J. Halsted, New Haven, Ct.
Carruth, T. A., Micanopy, Fla.
Carson, John C., Mills River, N. C.
Carter, H. C.
Carter, Thomas N., Fincastle, Texas.
Carter, W. A., Mobile, Ala.
Carter, William B., Elizabethtown, Tenn.
Cartledge, Groves H., Bold Spring, Ga.
Caruthers, D. D., Eli W., Gilmer's Store, N. C.
Case, Joel T., Victoria, Texas.
Castleton, Thomas.
Cater, Edwin, Summerville, Tenn.
Chamberlain, Hiram, Brownsville, Texas.
Chamberlain, N. P., Thibodeaux, La.
Chandler, A. E., Madison, Fla.
Chapman, J. B.
Chapman, D. D., R. Hett, Henderson, N. C.
Chase, D. D., Benjamin, Natchez, Miss.
Chevalier, Nicholas, Gonzales, Texas.
Cleghorn, Elisha B., New York.
Cleland, Thomas H., Union Church, Miss.
Cleveland, T. P., Danielsville, Ga.
Clisby, A. W., Thomasville, Ga.
Clymer, John W., Woodstock, Va.
Coble, John H., Gilopolis, N. C.,
Cochran, Isaac, Darlington Heights, Va.
Cochran, John M., Victoria, Texas.
Cochran, David, Jackson, Tenn.
Coit, George H., Americus, Ga.
Colton, D. D., Simeon, Asheboro', N. C.
Colton, J. H., Jackson's Spring, N. C.
Comfort, David.
Connelly, J. M., Columbus, Texas.
Connolly, Malcolm, C., Bronham, Texas.
Converse, D. D., A., Richmond, Va.
Converse, F. B., Richmond, Va.
Cooper, R. E.
Copeland, Charles C., Wheelock, C. N., Ark.
Corbett, William B., Cheraw, S. C.
Cozby, J. S., Bryan C. H., Ga.

Cousar, James A., Selkirk, S. C.
Craig, John N., Lancaster, S. C.
Crane, Edward P., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Crane, William H., Quincy, Fla.
Crawford, W. A., Winchester, Va.
Crawford, A. L., Warren, Ark.
Crawford, T. C., Dirt Town, Ga.
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Cunningham, A. N., Montgomery, Ala.
Cunningham, David H., Mountain Cove, Va.
Cunningham, D. D., H. B., Columbia, S. C.
Cunningham, William M., Lagrange, Ga.
Currie, Archibald, Hillsboro', N. C.
Currey, R. O., Knoxville, Tenn.
Curtis, L. W.
Custer, Philander M., Mt. Meridian, Va.

Dabney, D. D., R. L., Hampden Sidney, Va.
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Dana, William C., Charleston, S. C.
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Davidson, Joseph T., Homer, La.
Davies, J. A., Yorkville, S. C.
Davies, S. W., Augusta, Ark.
Davis, John H., Charlotte, C. H., Va.
Davis, Robert N., Lincolnton, N. C.
Davis, D. D., S. S., Augusta, Ga.
Davis, Thomas E., Davidson College, N. C.
Davis, William H., Mount Carmel, S. C.
Deane, Henry L., Griffin, Ga.
Denny, John C., Monticello, N. C.
Denny, G. H.
DeVeaux, T. L., Lowndesboro', Ala.
Dickson, A. F., Orangeburg, S. C.
Dickson, H. R., Rockhill, S.C.
Dickson, Michael, Milford, Texas.
Dinwiddie, Wm. M., Boston, Ga.
Doak, D. D., Alexander A., Knoxville, Tenn.
Doak, Daniel G., Oxford, Miss.
Doak, J. W. K., Greenville, Tenn.
Doak, D. D., Samuel W., Greenville, Tenn.
Dobbs, C. H., Durant, Miss.
Dod, C. S., Plaquemine, La.
Doll, J., Yanceyville, N. C.
Donnelly, S., Greenwood, S. C.
Doremus, D. D., J. E. C., Rosedale, La.
Douglas, James, Blackstocks, S. C.
Douglas, John, Charlotte, N. C.
Douglas, R. L., Unionville, S. C.
Dow, John R., Aiken, S. C.
Downing, J. G., Lawrenceville, Ga.
DuBose, John E., Tallahassee, Fla.
Dudley, Jacob D., Dover Mills, Va.
Dunlap, Mitchell D., Academy, Va.
Dunlop, James E., Bainbridge, Ga.
Dunlop, William C., Marshall, Texas.
Dunwody, James B., Marietta, Ga.
Dutton, D. D., Warren B., Charlestown, Va.

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Eagleton, D. D., Wm., Murfreesboro', Tenn.
Edwards, John, Wheelock, C. N., Ark.
Eells, Edward, Keachi, La.
Eldridge, E. D.
Emerson, Luther, Middlebrook, Va.
Emerson, W. C., Meridian, Miss.
English, Thomas R., Mayesville, S. C.
Enloe, Asahel, Springport, Miss.
Erwin, T. W., Blackstocks, S. C.
Evans, R. R., Germantown, Tenn.
Ewing, Daniel B., Dublin, Va.
Ewing, F. L.
Ewing, John D., Lisbon, Va.

Fairley, David, Manchester, N. C.
Farnham, Baldwin.

Farrow, W. T.
Faucette, Thomas U., Oxford, N. C.
Ferguson, A. N., Crane's Creek, N. C.
Ferrill, George W., Tally Ho, N. C.
Finney, E. D., Washington, Miss.
Fisk, Pliny, Doaksville, N. C.
Fitzgerald, James H., Buckingham C. H., Va.
Flanagan, James H., Kingswood, Va.
Fletcher, P., Richmond, Va.
Flinn, William, Milledgeville, Ga.
Foote, D. D., William H., Romney, Va.
Ford, J. Franklin, Minden, La.
Foremen, Stephen, Tahlequah, Ark.
Forrest, D. D., John, Charleston, S. C.
Foster, G. R., Wgtumpka, Ala.
Frary, J. L., Shepherdstown, Va.
Fraser, Donald, Madison, Fla.
Freeman, J. F. W., Richmond, Va.
Frierson, D. E., Jeffries' Creek, S. C.
Frierson, Edward O., Gourdin's Depot, S. C.
Frierson, J. Simpson, Ashwood, Tenn.
Frierson, J. Stephenson, Mt. Pleasant, Tenn.
Frierson, S. R., Starkville, Miss.
Frontis, Stephen, Deep Well, N. C.
Frost, J. H., Corpus Christi, Texas.
Fullinwider, P. H., Huntsville, Texas.

Gaillard, J. H., Tupelo, Miss.
Gaillard, S. S., Greenville, C. H., S. C.
Galloway, S., Midville, Ga.
Gamble, James.
Garrison, R. C., Woodville, Tenn.
Gaston, LeRoy B., Enterprise, Miss.
Geary, John M., Plain's Store, La.
Gibbs, George M., Clinton, N. C.
Gibert, Joseph, Mount Olive, Miss.
Gibert, J. F., Abbeville C. H., S. C.
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Gill, Sidney S., Hickory Withe, Tenn.
Gilland, James R., Indian Town, S. C.
Gillespie, James H., Denmark, Tenn.
Gillespie, W. F., Liberty, Miss.
Gilmer, George H., Farmville, Va.
Gilmer, T. Walker.
Gilmore, J. H., Kerr's Creek, Va.
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Gladney, R. S., Aberdeen, Miss.
Goulding, Francis R., Macon, Ga.
Graham, James R., Winchester, Va.
Graham, John C., Moscow, Texas.
Graham, ——, Covington, La.
Graham, Robert C., Mack's Meadows, Va.
Grasty, John S., Fincastle, Va.
Graves, A. R., Zion Seminary, Miss.
Graves, Eli, Quitman, Ga.
Graves, E., San Antonio, Texas.
Graves, Joel S., Greenfield, Ga.
Graves, N. Z., Little Rock, Ark.
Graves, Robert J., Oaks, N. C.
Graves, William, Mills River, N. C.
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Gray, Robert, Sydnersville, Va.
Gray, William A., Ripley, Miss.
Gready, William P., Walhalla, S. C.
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Green, E. M., Washington, Ga.
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Gregg, W. A., Mar's Bluff, S. C.

Hagaman, Abraham, Lake Providence, La.
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Hall, James D., Woodlawn, N. C.
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Hall, William A., Eaton, Tenn.
Hall, William T.
Hall, William, Oxford, Ala.
Halliday, S. F.
Halloway, A. H.
Hamilton, William E., Monticello, Fla.
Handy, I. W. K., Portsmouth, Va.
Hardie, Henry, Woodstock, Va.
Hardin, D. D., Robert.
Harding, E. H.
Harris, John K., Lynchburg, Va.
Harris, John M., Romney, Va.
Harris, J. L., Somerville, Va.
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Harrison, Peyton, Baltimore, Md.
Harrison, William, New Market, Tenn.
Harrison, W. A., Courtland, Ala.
Harrison, W. P., Knox Hill, Fla.
Hart, Andrew, Pattonsburg, Va.
Hart, Edson, New Orleans, La.
Harvey, Holmes L., Alpine, Ala.
Hatch, L. D., Greensboro', Ala.
Hawes, H. H., Ford's, Va.
Hay, S. H., Camden, S. C.
Haynes, James, Indian Creek, Va.
Hazen, James K., Prattville, Ala.
Hendee, Homer, Macon, Ga.
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Henderson, D. C., Wynnesboro', La.
Henderson, R., Danville, Miss.
Hendrick, C. S.
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Herring, Needham W., Kenansville, N. C.
Higgins, D. D., Samuel Hall.
Hill, H. G., Hillsboro', N. C.
Hillhouse, J. B., Steele's, S. C.
Hines, Edward, Sassafras Fork, N. C.
Hodge, Samuel, Broylesville, Tenn.
Hodgman, S. A., Hempstead, Texas.
Hoge, John M., Johnsonville, Ark.
Hoge, D. D., Moses D., Richmond, Va.
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Holmes, D. D., James, Covington, Tenn.
Holmes, Z. L., Laurens C. H., S. C.
Hood, Jacob, Mills River, N. C.
Hood, Nathaniel, Dandridge, Tenn.
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Hotchkin, Ebenezer, Doaksville, N. C.
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Houston, R. R., Rocky Point, Va.
Houston, W. W., New Hampden, Va.
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Hoyt, D. D., Nathan, Athens, Ga.
Hoyt, J. W., Nashville, Tenn.
Hughes, A. G., Mebanesville, N. C.
Humphreys, David, Rock Mills, S. C.
Humphreys, D. W., Sardis, Miss.
Humphreys, James M., Newbern, Va.
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Hutchison, D. D., J. R., Houston, Texas.
Hutton, C. M., Sumterville, Ala.
Hyde, E. F., Scuilletown, S. C.
Hyde, G. C., Atchafalaya, Ala.

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Isler, S. H., Burgaw, N. C.

Jackson, Matthew W., Rough Creek, Va.
Jacobs, Ferdinand, Washington, Ga.
Jacobs, W. P., Clinton, S. C.
James, Albert A., Jonesville, S. C.
Jennings, James H., Bloomery, Va.
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Johnson, A. G., Manassas, Ga.
Johnson, Daniel, Gilopolis, N. C.
Johnson, T. P., Batesville, Miss.
Johnson, William.
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Johnston, R. Z., Providence, N. C.

Jones, John, Griffin, Ga.
Jordan, D. E., Manison, N. C.
Junkin, E. D., Brownsburg, Va.
Junkin, William F., Fancy Hill, Va.

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Keith, William J., Griffin, Ga.
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Kenmore, Charles, Augusta, Ga.
Kennedy, James C., Statesville, N. C.
Kennedy, J. C., Ridgeway, S. C.
Kennedy, J. L., Williamston, S. C.
Kennedy, R. P., Highland, Va.
Kennedy, R. W. B., Pleasant Ridge, Ala.
Kennedy, W. L., Pleasant Ridge, Ala.
Kerr, D. D., A. H., Delta, Tenn.
Kerr, H. M., Water Valley, Miss.
Kerr, J. W., Columbus, Miss.
Ketchum, R. C., Clarksville, Ga.
Kilpatrick, W. M., Mocksville, N. C.
Kimmons, John A., Saltillo, Miss.
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King, James, Bristol, Tenn.
King, J. L., Perry, Ga.
King, John R., Holston Valley, Tenn.
King, W. M., Garden Valley, Texas.
King, S. A., Melford, Texas.
Kingsbury, D. D., C., Doaksville, C. N., Ark:
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Kirkpatrick, D. D., J. L., Davidson Col., N. C.
Kirkpatrick, John M., Danville, Va.
Kline, A. L., Columbia, Tenn.
Krider, B. Scott, Rowan Mills, N. C.

Lacy, Beverly T., Wytheville, Va.
Lacy, D. D., Drury, Wilson, N. C.
Lacy, M. L., Charlotte C. H., Va.
Lacy, William S., El Dorado, Ark.
Lacy, William S.
Lafar, D. X., Anderson C. H., S. C.
Lafferty, R. H., Charlotte, N. C.
Lamar, T. J., Maryville, Tenn.
Lambe, H. B., Natchez, Miss.
Lane, Charles W., Greenesboro', Ga.
Lanneau, John F., Marietta, Ga.
Lapsley, D. D., R. A., Shelby Springs, Ala.
Larkin, ——, McLeod, Miss.
Law, T. H., Florence, S. C.
Lawrence, A. B., Bovina, Miss.
Lea, T. D., Paulding, Miss.
Leach, D. D., J. H. C., Farmville, Va.
Leavenworth, A. J., Petersburg, Va.
Lee, Edmund, Savannah, Ga.
Lee, William States, Graniteville, S. C.
Leftwich, J. T., Wytheville, Va.
Legare, I. S. K., Orangeburg, S. C.
Legare, T. H., Orangeburg, S. C.
Leland, D. F., W., Columbia, S. C.
Leps, James H.
Lewis, J. N., Richmond, Ala.
Lewis, Reuben, Holcombe's Rock, Va.
Leyburn, George W., Liberty, Va.
Leyburn, D. D., John, New York.
Lilley, John, Micco, Ark.
Lindley, Daniel, Port Natal, South Africa.
Lindsay, J. O., Mount Carmel, S. C.
Lindsley, D. D., J. B., Nashville, Tenn.
Little, James, Gainesville, Fla.
Lockridge, A. Y., Ringgold, Ga.
Long, I. J., Sumter, S. C.
Love, S. J., Natchez, Miss.
Loughridge, A. J., Alta Springs, Texas.
Loughridge, R. M., Alta Springs, Texas.
Lupton, Jonah W., Winchester, Va.
Lynch, Thomas, Mebanesville, N. C.
Lyon, D. D., James A., Columbus, Miss.
Lyons, J., Jeffersonville, Va.

Mack, J. B., Mayesville, S. C.
Mack, D. D., William, Columbia, Tenn.
Mallard, Robert Q., Atlanta, Ga.
Marable, B. F., Warsaw, N. C.
Markham, Thomas R., New Orleans.
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McKee, James M., Orion, Ala.
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McKinney, D. D., Samuel, New River, La.
McKinnon, L., Gilopolis, N. C.
McKittrick, John, Oak Hill, Ga.
McLees, H. W., Sadler's Creek, S. C.
McLees, John, Greenwood, S. C.
McLees, Robert, Seneca, S. C.
McLean, Hector, Malta, N. C.
McLean, M. J., Bridgeville, Ala.
McLean, J. M., Mobile, Ala.
McLure, D. M., Kingstree, S. C.
McMartin, P. A.
McMillan, Andrew, Springfield, N. C.
McMillan, John, Cross Timbers, Mo.
McMullen, D. D., R. B., Clarksville, Tenn.
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McMurran, R. S., Glade Springs, Va.
McMurray, Francis, Union Springs, Ala.
McNair, Daniel, Galveston, Texas.
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McNair, Evander, Eufaula, Ala.
McNair, Malcolm, Gilopolis, N. C.
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McNeill, Hector, Montpelier, N. C.
McPherson, James P., Montpelier, N. C.
McQueen, Archibald, Queensdale, N. C.
McQueen, Donald, Sumter, S. C.
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McWhorter, William, Bachelor's Retreat, S. C.

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Witherspoon, T. D., Memphis, Tenn.
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NOTE BY THE STATED CLERK.—I have employed every means for making the above list as nearly complete as possible. The almost entire absence, however, of Presbyterial Statistical Reports, has rendered the existence of some errors unavoidable, especially in post office addresses. The names of members of the former "United Synod" have been printed in their alphabetical places, with their post office directions, so far as these could be ascertained.

I take this occasion, also, to deplore the late appearance of the Minutes; which is due to causes over which I had no control.

J. R. W.

INDEX.

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ASSEMBLY met, 347 ; hours for sessions, 349, 356, 357 ; place and time of next, 359; dissolved, 375.

BAPTISM, report of committee on overtures concerning, 363.

BENEFICIARY EDUCATION, report of committee on offered, 362; report re-committed and committee continued, 364.

BILLS AND OVERTURES, addition to committee on, 358.

CHARTER, report on, 364.

COLORED PEOPLE, report of committee on overtures concerning proper treatment of, 370; committee appointed, to report to next Assembly touching religious instruction of, 371; this committee added to, 373.

COMMISSIONERS ENROLLED, 347; additional, 351, 356, 358, 360.

DABNEY, Rev. Dr. R. L., letter from returning certain papers, &c., 350.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS, report of Executive Committee of, 354, 389; treasurer's report, 394; report of Standing Committe on, 369; Executive Committee nominated, 364; elected, 373.

DOREMUS, Rev. J. E. C., Letter from referred, 360.

EDUCATION, report of Executive Committee of, 354, 403; treasurer's statement 404; report of Standing Committee on, 366; Executive Committee nominated, 364; elected, 372.

ELECTIONS, Committee on, 349; reports of Committee, 351, 358.

EXAMINATION of MINISTERS, overtures to alter rules for, refused, 359.

FINANCE, report of Standing Committee of, 357.

FOREIGN MISSIONS, report of Executive Committee of, 354, 395; treasurer's report, 399; Standing Committee on added to, 362 and report of, 371; Executive Committee nominated, 364; elected, 373.

HUBER, James H., letter from introducing Rev. R. Morrison, 353.

LEAVE of ABSENCE, report of Standing Committee on, 369.

KENTUCKY BOARD OF AID FOR SOUTHERN PASTORS, salutatory letter from, 355; letter referred to Standing Committee on Domestic Missions, 356; thanks to for generous sympathy, 370; Executive Committee of Domestic Missions appointed agent for disbursing funds received from, 370.

LEYBURN, Rev. Dr. John, thanks of Assembly tendered to, 374.

LICENTIATES, overture on ordination of under certain circumstances answered, 362.

MINISTERS & LICENTIATES, alphabetical list of, 414.

MORRISON, Rev. R., addresses Assembly in behalf of Kentucky Board of Aid for Southern Pastors, 355; thanks to, 356.

NAME OF THE CHURCH, mode of selecting, 358; selection of, 357.

NARRATIVE OF RELIGION, 376.

NASHVILLE, meeting of Synod of appointed, 358.

NORTHERN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, agents and ministers of, how to be received, 359

OFFICERS, elected, 349.

OVERTURES, requesting change of certain boundary lines, 360.

PASTORAL LETTER, committee appointed to prepare, 352; report of Committee, 371; disposition to be made of, 371; letter, 382; Dr. [illegible] protest to portion of, 371.
PERMANENT CLERK, Dr. Brown elected, 352.
POPULAR AMUSEMENTS, report adopted concerning, 361.
PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI, overture from and action on, 358.
PUBLICATION, report of Executive Committee of, 354, 400; treasurer's statement, 403; report of Standing Committee on, 373; Executive Committee nominated, 364; elected, 372.
REVISION of FORM of GOVERNMENT, &c., letter from chairman of Committee on, 349.
RULING ELDERS, non-residence of disallowed, 363.
STANDING COMMITTEES appointed, 351.
STATED CLERK, resignation of Dr. Waddel, 349; Dr. Wilson elected, 352.
SUSTENTATION FUND, commissioners appointed to aid Executive Committee of Domestic Missions in superintending, 370; collections for required, 370.
SYNODICAL RECORDS, Committees on, 352; reports on, 359, 360.
SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA, overture from and action on, 358; 359
SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE, report of Standing Committee on, 368
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, at Columbia, letter from chairman of Board of Directors, 404; report of faculty of, 405; treasurer's report, 408; resolutions concerning endowment of Professorships in, 373; election of Directors, 373.
Union Theological Seminary, report of, 411.
Report of Standing Committee, 364.
TRUSTEES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, statement of proceedings of, 356
VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES, Committee to report on continued, 375.
WADDEL, Rev. Dr. John N., thanks to, 349.
YOUTH, day of prayer appointed for, 368.

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